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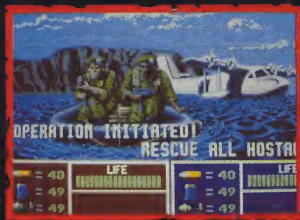
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Jazza Rignall looks back over the past year and waxes nostalgic about the events that made 1989 1989, and not some other year like, say, 1492 or 2213.

PLAYMASTERS

29

Packed with tips for Battlehawks and Robocop (amongst others), and a whole two pages of POKES for you Commodore 64 owners!!

THE CORPS

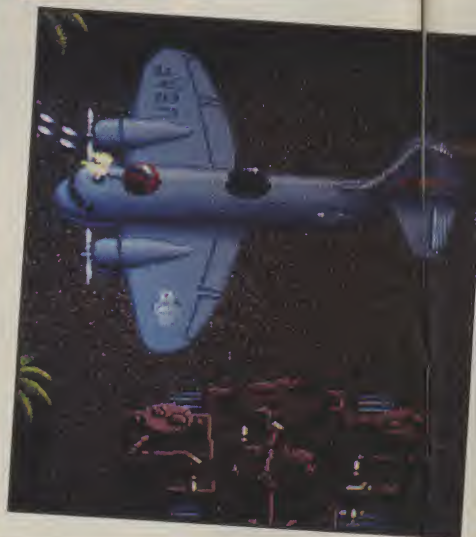
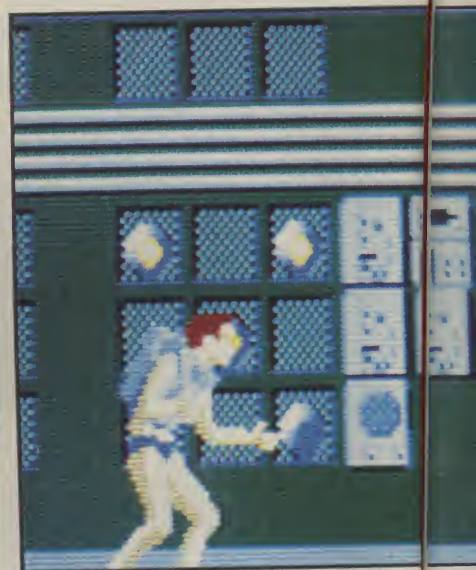
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The first episode of a new cartoon adventure story starring those ultra-tough space troopers in The Corps.

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116

A bit of a Sega special this month. We review Basketball Nightmare, Dead Angle, Dynamite Dux and Psycho Fox on the Mastersystem and the brilliant Rambo III on the Megadrive.



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EDITOR Julian Rignall ART EDITOR: Andrea Walker STAFF WRITERS: Paul Glancey Paul Rand ART ASSISTANT: Osmond Browne AD MANAGER: Nigel Taylor DEP AD MANAGER Joanna Cooke SALES EXEC Tina Zanelli PRODUCTION ASSISTANT Glenys Powell PUBLISHER: Graham Taylor
THIS MONTH'S COVER: CHASE HQ FROM OCEAN
COVER ARTIST: JERRY PARIS
SUBSCRIPTION ENQUIRIES: EMAP Frontline, 1 Lincoln Court, Lincoln Road, Peterborough PE1 2RP. TEL: 0733 555161. FAX: 0733 62788. EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISEMENT OFFICES: Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1 3AU. TEL: 01 251 6222. FAX 01 490 1095.



EDITOR: JULIAN "JOLLY JAZ" RIGNALL
"Ho ho ho!" says Jaz. "What I want for Christmas is... um... Ooh, I think it'd have to be a Black Knight pinball machine. Either that or a few new games for my Gameboy, or perhaps an FM Towns or..."



MEGA COMPS THE HOTLINES!

Pick up the phone, dial the number and you could be the luck-ee winner of TWO PC Engines, copies of It Came From the Desert complete with SF vids, and a load of Sega Mastersystem software. Blimey!

WIN A ROBOCOP!

Well, sort of. Ocean put up a giant Tomy Robo-chum and copies of Robocop, the game and the video!

BE A GROOVY NINJA!

Thanks to Virgin Mastertronic, we're giving away a ghetto blaster with built-in CD player as well as a CD of the Ninja Warriors coin-op music. Fifteen copies of the game up for grabs too!!

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TS

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94

Get your votes in for the cream of 1989's crop of games, in the definitive computer entertainment awards. Remember, your votes make the stars!

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Empire sign up Lucasfilm's latest corker, Pipemania. We've also got news of some hot new stuff from Accolade, Power Boat and Jack Nicklaus' Golf, as well as the Domark conversion of Tengen's Cyberball, and Vendetta from System 3!

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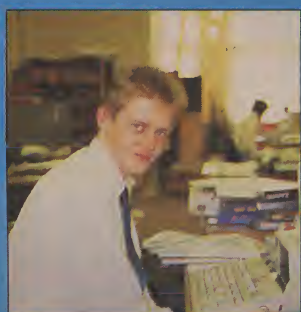
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ART EDITOR: ANDREA "MISS L TOW" WALKER
"Ooh, ooh, what do I want to find in my stocking? Um, um, ooooooh... Noooo, not one of those... Hmmmmmm. Ooh, I know, I'd love a..."
So sorry, Andy, time's up.



STAFF WRITER: PAUL "BING" GLANCEY
"I'm dreamin'... of a whillite Christmas... bo, bo, bo, bo... just like the wuuuns I used to knooooow... where the tree-tops glisten, and chili dren listen, to heeee..." Oh, do turn him off, somebody.



STAFF WRITER: PAUL "RUDE OLPH" RAND
"Hey, Ah'll tell you worrawant for Chrissmiss. Just gis a crate of Grolsch, a box o' tabs, a canny bord... an' a lonnnng holiday to recuperate. Champ'yin!" (He's not really like this, readers - Ed)

C+V SCREEN SHOTS

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C+VG HIT!

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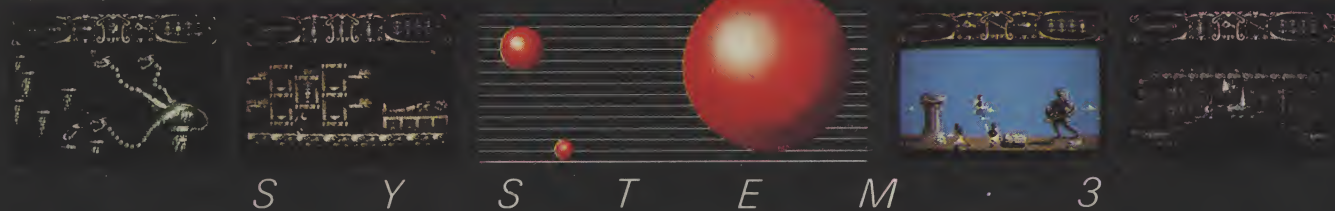
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Rodney Matthews



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THIS

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THE BEST GAMES OF '89

Which games were the best this year? Here's the answer - the following list shows the 25 games which scored the highest marks when they were reviewed in C+VG during 1989.

CHASE HQ 97% (SPECTRUM)

Ocean's fab Police chase arcade conversion.

SUPER MARIO BROS II 97% (NINTENDO)

Unbelievably addictive cartoon-quality platform game.

INDY 500 96% (PC)

Simply the best racing game we've ever seen.

POPULOUS 96% (AMIGA)

A fantastic God simulator from EA

GHOULS 'N' GHOSTS 96% (MEGADRIVE)

Incredibly accurate conversion of the arcade game.

F29 RETALIATOR 96% (AMIGA)

The greatest flight/combat simulator released.



GUNHED 96% (PC ENGINE)

Superb, arcade quality shoot 'em up.

XENON II 96% (AMIGA)

Ditto!

IT CAME FROM THE DESERT 95% (AMIGA)

Cinemaware's latest and greatest.

DAMOCLES 95% (ST)

Novagen's much-awaited to Mercenary is a corker!

TETRIS 95% (GAMEBOY)

Addictive beyond belief - one go and you're hooked!

ROBOCOP 95% (SPECTRUM)

This year's best seller, and quite rightly so.

DUNGEON EXPLORER 94% (PC ENGINE)

Fabulous five-player Gauntlet-style arcade adventure.

DRAGON SPIRIT 94% (PC ENGINE)

Great graphics, sound and playability make this console conversion a winner.

SIM CITY 94% (AMIGA)

Become a Mayor and build an entire city in this brilliant and utterly original title.

FALCON 93% (ST)

This flight sim is so real the USAF train their pilots with it.

TV SPORTS FOOTBALL 93% (AMIGA)

Another great Cinemaware release - this one based around American football.

STUNT CAR 93% (ST)

Beautifully stylised and extremely playable 3D racing game.

FINAL LAP TWIN 93% (PC ENGINE)

Thrilling simultaneous two-player race game.

RAINBOW ISLANDS 93% (ST)

A stunning conversion - sadly yet to be released.

SWITCHBLADE 93% (AMIGA)

Slick, polished and addictive platform romp.

TURBO OUTRUN 93% (C64)

Excellent arcade conversion from US Gold.

F-15 STRIKE EAGLE II 93% (PC)

Graphically impressive and very enjoyable combat simulation.

STRIDER 93% (ST)

Very accurate conversion of the brilliant coin-op.

MARIOLAND 93% (GAMEBOY)

Mario appears on hand-held and is just as much fun.



THE C+VG TOP ARCADE GAMES OF 1989

1. STUN RUNNER (ATARI)

Atari's fantastic Roadblasters-in-a-tunnel race game - a visual and aural experience to be savoured.

2. SUPER MONACO GP (SEGA)

The fastest, most action-packed race game yet seen in the arcades.

3. WINNING RUN (NAMCO)

Namco's ultra-realistic filled-3D racing simulation is a joy to drive.

4. HARD DRIVIN' (ATARI)

Speed and stunt tracks are both part and parcel of this thrilling race game.

5. NARC (WILLIAMS)

Ultraviolet and extremely gory - but great fun as you and a partner take on a huge drugs syndicate armed with guns and rockets.

WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR NEXT YEAR

GAMEBOY

Nintendo's fantastic Gameboy has sold well over 2,000,000 units in Japan, and is released in the UK in the early part of next year. Software is already piling up for it, with 19 titles now available in Japan. Keep your eyes peeled for a special feature early next year.

ATARI LYNX

The much talked-about Atari Lynx will appear around Easter next year. It's certainly a stunning machine, and hopefully there'll plenty of new software to back it up when it goes on sale. We'll be first with the reviews.



SEGA MEGADRIVE

What more can we say about this great machine that you don't already know? It's going to be officially launched in the UK in April - hooray!!

SUPER NINTENDO

The Super 16 bit Nintendo is released in Japan in July and promises to be the most powerful home machine ever seen, containing an incredible array of custom chips. We'll keep you posted closer to the date...



THE SHAPE OF GAMES TO COME JUST SOME OF THE GOODIES YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SAMPLE NEXT YEAR...

STUN Runner was snapped up by Do-mark about .0002 seconds after it made its debut in the arcades. They've certainly done the business with **Hard Drivin'**, but how will they get on with Atari's massive 3D monster? Only time will tell...

Activision have two film titles up their sleeves at the moment, **Die Hard** and **The Abyss**. Will they appear during 1990? Who knows...

Robocop II is released in the Cinema next year - and Ocean have got the rights to produce a computer game of the film. We can't wait.

The computer game of **Back to the Future II** should appear sometime during next year. As should the game of **Back to the Future III**...

Another film tie-in from Ocean is **Night Breed** - the film sounds very promising, and the game has already been in production for six months!

Arcade conversions coming from Ocean are Data East's James Bond style spy game, **Secret Agent** and the brilliant two-player Double Dragon type combat game, **Shadow Warriors**.

Battle Command, the follow up to **Carrier Command** is scheduled for a March release, and it should be a stunner...

The follow-up to **Retaliator** is also planned - watch out for it.

Hard Drivin' extra track disks are released by Do-mark early next year and, later in the year, full track editor disks.

NEXT

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elite squad of mafia-busters.

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even better. Great atmosphere ... the
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LINE THREE

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**WIN ANOTHER PC
ENGINE!!!**

Yep, this is the other Micromedia PC Engine line! Again, one of Micromedia's PC Engines, and two games of the winner's choice are up for grabs. So if you want one of these little big consoles get your digit stuck in that dial doubleplusquick!

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FAB SEGA GAMES!!**

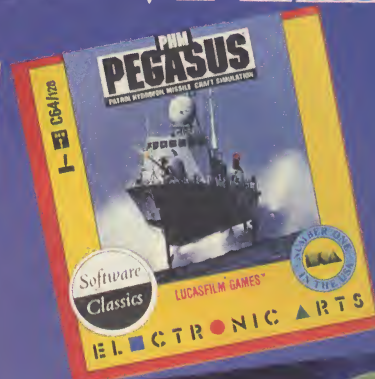
Five copies of American Pro Football and five of Cloudmaster, both for the Sega Master System, are up for grabs, courtesy of those highly generous (and absolutely loaded!) Virgin Mastertronic folk. All you have to do to be in with a chance of winning one is to ring our Hotline number and answer those questions!!

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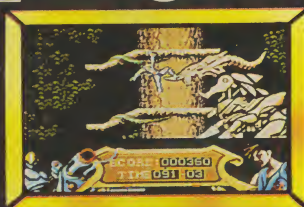
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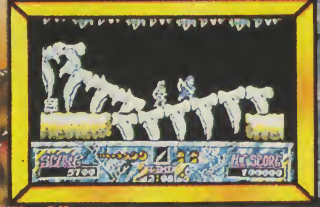
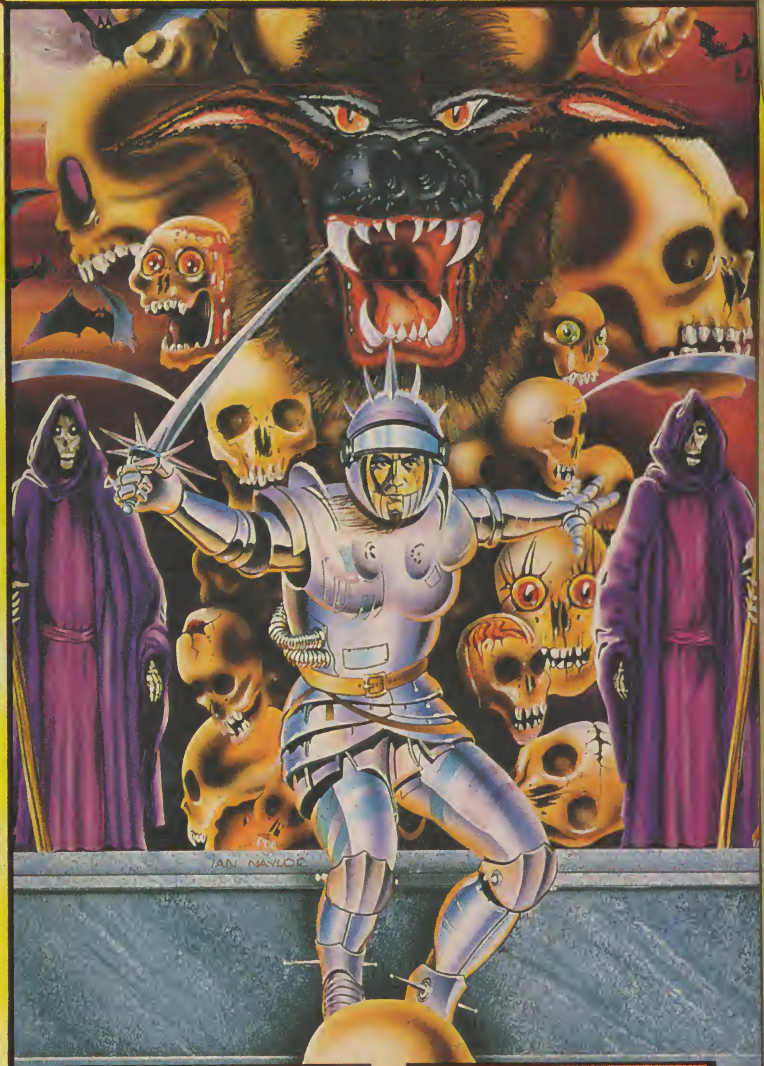
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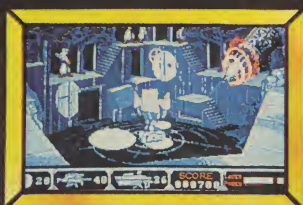
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**GAMES DESTINED
D HALL OF FAME!!**



Screen shots from various systems.

THE CYCLES

International Grand Prix Racing

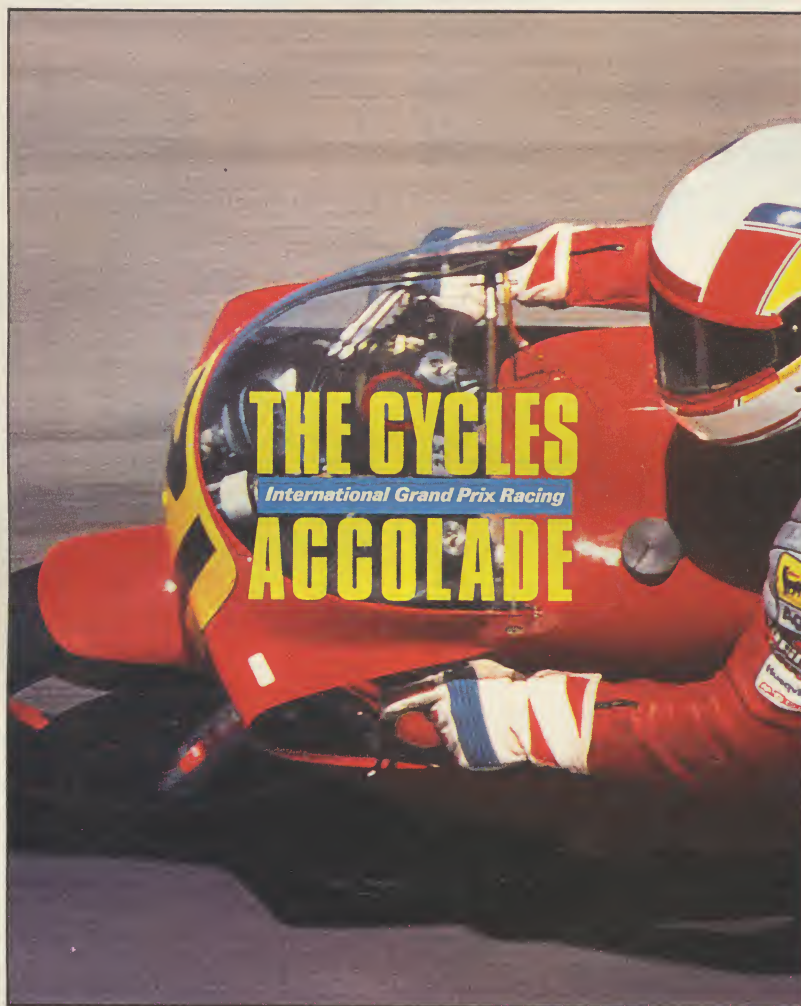
The Cycles: International Grand Prix Racing wraps you around the chassis of the fastest bikes ever built as you compete in the International Grand Prix of motorcycle racing. The only motorcycle game with a first-person perspective. Sense the rush of full throttle speed. Look over the handlebars to see the pavement disappear under your wheels.



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Screen shots from IBM P.C. version.



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REVIEWS INDEX

THE RATINGS

When a game is reviewed, we give ratings for five different criteria:

GRAPHICS

Does the game look good? Is the scrolling smooth? Are the sprites flickery? Is the animation realistic? This mark covers all visual aspects of the game.

SOUND

Sound and music that enhance a game are given high marks. The sound rating is low if the soundtrack or effects are inappropriate.

VALUE

Here, we take into consideration the price of the game, the amount of entertainment it offers and the quality of the packaging. In other words - is it worth the money.

PLAYABILITY

This tells you how addictive and enjoyable the game is - the higher the rating is, the more playable the game is.

OVERALL

The most important rating of all. This is what we think of the game as a whole, taking into consideration all the other ratings. In short, how good the game really is.

THE MARKS

85+

A C+VG HIT! An outstanding game that shouldn't be missed.

70-85

A very good game that missed out on a higher accolade due to minor discrepancies. Should definitely be tried, though.

55-69

Average to fairly good. Could still appeal to fans of the genre.

40-55

Below average to average. Generally a disappointment.

15-39

Generally a poor game that mightn't even appeal to the most ardent fans.

14-

Ugh! Binary sewage that's guaranteed to make your computer throw up.

THE REVIEWERS

JULIAN RIGNALL

C+VG's arcade player who lives for coin-op conversions, shoot 'em ups and arcade adventures.

PAUL GLANCEY

He loves games requiring brains, but doesn't mind the odd blaster.

GORDON HOUGHTON

Ex-ZZAP! 64 Editor who loves games of all sorts, but blasters are tops in his house.

PAUL RAND

An easy-to-please gamer who likes all sorts of computer games.



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C+VG HIT! REVIEWS

CHASE HQ 18

Ocean's arcade conversion is brilliant on the ST and Amiga - but even more astounding on the Spectrum!

F29

RETALIATOR 40

Super-realistic graphics and plenty of action make this the best Amiga flight sim ever.

CABAL 56

Lots of death and explosions make the C64 version of this a right good blast.

DRAGONS OF FLAME 76

Advanced Dungeons of Dragon has never been this much fun. An Amiga hit!

IT CAME FROM THE DESERT 88

Cinemaware's latest is undoubtedly their greatest! Bust big bugs on the Amiga.

INDIANAPOLIS

500 98

Absolutely, positively, undoubtedly the best road racing game ever!

DYNAMITE DUX 116

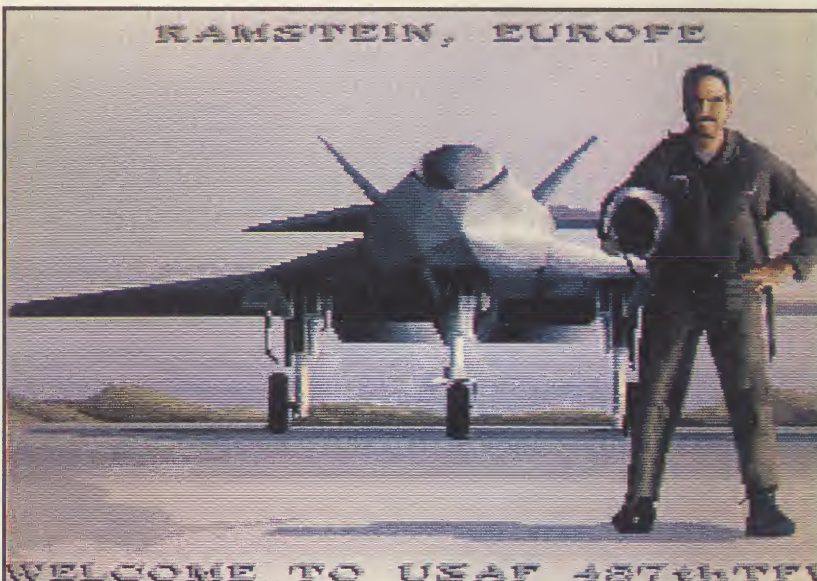
Terrific Sega Master System conversion of the wacky arcade beat 'em up.

PSYCHO FOX 121

Cute 'n' crazy platform action make for another Sega HIT!

RAMBO III 123

The latest Megadrive release - a corker of a combat game starring old Sly himself.





▲ A few more bumps and he's nicked!

The Police radio crackles into life as you speed down the freeway in your black turbo Porsche. "This is Nancy from Police headquarters. Suspected multiple murderer heading west out of the city in a white British sports car. Intercept and arrest." Pausing only to stick a flashing red light on top of the car and switch on the police siren, you stick your foot to the floorboards and belt through heavy traffic to catch the criminal before he escapes...

And so begins Ocean's conversion of the brilliant Taito police chase arcade game, which gives the player the chance to join a side of the Police force which makes Miami Vice look rubbish - Chase HQ.

The specialised skills you need to be a hero in this elite branch of the boys in blue is the ability to zoom through traffic at high speed, track down villains driving very fast cars and smash them off the road before they reach the state line and freedom - if you can't do that, it won't be long before you're slung out of the force.

At the start of each level you're given the description of the felon and the car he's driving. After that it's time to leap behind the wheel of your car and weave through the traffic in hot pursuit. The highway twists and turns, and you've got to avoid hitting other cars (which slows you down) if you're going to catch

the speeding villain within the time limit. Sometimes there are forks in the road, and an arrow gives you a few seconds' notice as to which is the quickest route - miss the right one and valuable time is lost as you tear down the longer road. It's at times like this when you wonder whether to use one of your three turbos to give you an extra boost of speed, or whether to save them for when you find your quarry...

When the criminal's car is in sight, extra time is added and you've simply got to run it off the road by repeatedly smashing into it. Every time you hit the villain's car, one point is added to the damage meter at the left of the screen. When the meter is full, he slows right down, giving you the chance to pull up alongside and bust him.

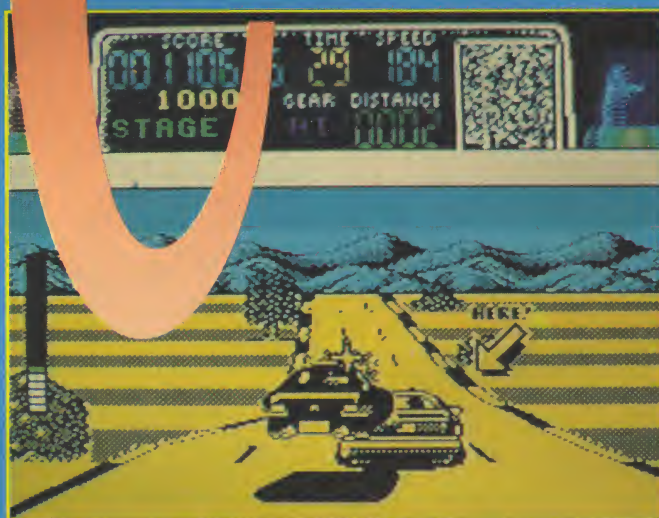
After that it's back to headquarters to wait for the next mission - an even tougher villain driving an even faster car!

I love the arcade version of Chase HQ, and am pleased to see that Ocean have transferred the game to the ST, Amiga and Spectrum perfectly.

On 16 bit there's plenty of speech, great sound effects and music, and colourful and effective 3D graphics. More importantly, the gameplay is superb; tough enough to keep you glued to your screen as you race after the elusive next car, yet highly addictive as you always seem to get just a little bit further

BY OCEAN

CHASE



▲ The best ever Spectrum arcade conversion!





CHASE HQ



▲ "This is Nancy at Chase HQ..."



▲ Don't take the wrong road!

with every go.

The sounds and speech are lost on the Spectrum version, but the graphics, although monochrome, are fast, smooth and very impressive indeed, with great sprites, highly effective 3D and superlative gameplay making this the most astounding Spectrum game for years.

JULIAN RIGNALL

**C+VG
HIT!**

AMIGA £24.99

GRAPHICS 89%
SOUND 94%
VALUE 92%
PLAYABILITY 95%

A stunning conversion of the all-action crashing, smashing, car-trashing police chase game which contains all the thrills and spills of the original machine.

OVERALL 93%

ST £19.99

Looks virtually identical to the Amiga version, contains slightly more speech and is just as playable. If you're a speed freak, don't let this past you.

OVERALL 93%

SPEC £9.99

Simply astonishing. All the features of the arcade game come together in the smoothest, fastest, most exciting Spectrum game seen in years. It gets my vote for Spectrum Conversion of the Year - if you miss it, you should be locked up!!

OVERALL 97%

UPDATE

C64 and Amstrad versions are expected soon - we've seen nothing of them yet, but hopefully they'll be just as good as the other versions.

WHAT'S THE SCORE?

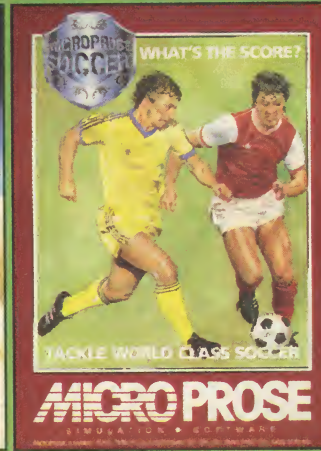
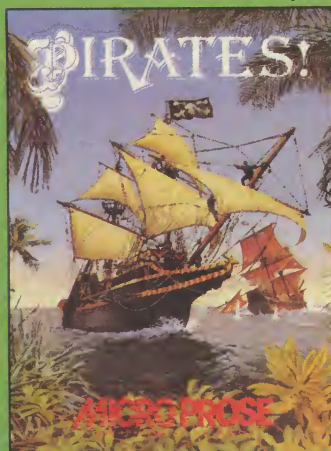
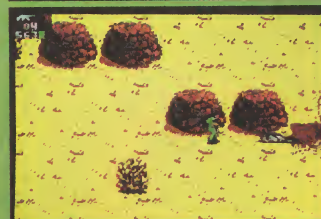
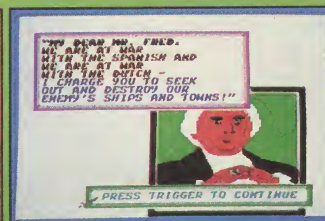
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WHAT'S THE SCORE?

Soccer was the world's first true football simulation – from indoor league to World Cup Final, it's just like the real thing;



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Bulging - that's the only word to describe the contents of Yob's Christmas mailbag. I bet Santa Claus didn't get as many letters as I did this month. If you fancy telling me what software an' stuff you got for Christmas, drop us a line at **YOB'S MAILBAG, C+VG, PRIORY COURT, 30-32 FARRINGDON LANE, LONDON, EC1R 3AU.**

MR STINGYPANTS

Dear Yob,
I bought a "certain computer magazine", and saw some posters for some software, and said to my dad that they looked like good games. But he said no, because he reckons that you shouldn't buy a game that doesn't show graphics on the posters because the graphics are probably bad. Do you think this is right?

Liam Campling, London E17

YOB: Take no notice of your dad; he probably just said that because he's too much of a skinflint to buy you any games!

KONIX QUANDRY

Dear Yob,
I've been thinking about purchasing a Konix console as its specification looks wonderful, but reading your console mega-book, I am very surprised to hear that at the moment it doesn't have very much software support, so I am in two minds whether or not to buy one. Do you think I should wait a while to see

what comes up? Maybe you could make the decision easier for me by giving me some more information on the machine.

Ian Barrett, Wisbech, Cambs

YOB: I wouldn't hold your breath waiting for the Konix console to arrive on the scene. It's been held up (again) and probably won't make an appearance until the Spring at least. What a bummer, eh?

BILLY THE TELLY

Dear Yob,
I am a television and I seem to have been misquoted. The words "Aaaaargh! No! Please don't" seem to have been missed from all Sega adverts and this is getting me down as it was I who quoted the immortal words. Please correct the error.

Your reward on completion of our contract will be a vast treasure full of gold and other valuable goodies. Many thanks.

Billy The Farmer, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne

YOB: Blimey! Did you see

that? A talking television set! Hang on, if you're a telly why are you called Billy the Farmer? No, no don't tell me...

MAD ANDY

Dear Yob,
I am writing this letter to warn your readers about the dangers of computer incompatibility.

When Trudy, my talking donkey, originally suggested that I should buy a ZX81 I jumped at the chance. Its 1K sideways RAM blitter chip originally attracted me, and its MIDI ports allowed me to compose more songs for Kylie, my singing budgie. Imagine my anger when I found that my ST version of "Stock-Aitken-Waterman Quality Music Synthesizer" wouldn't fit in the tape recorder, never mind load!!!

However, the story does have a happy ending: Trudy was butchered (sorry, veggies) and with the profit from her sales to a well-known hamburger chain I was able to buy an Oric which, as you

know, is completely compatible with the PC Engine and the Megadrive! As Prince would say, "Yellow Smiley offers me X".

Andy and his animal menagerie, Shere, Surrey
PS I really own an ST.

Fooled you!

YOB: Erm, is there a doctor in the house?

SEGAS ARE SUPA

Dear Yob,
I am writing to you on my very last sheet of paper in the world, to ask you if there are any Sega magazines which have Sega reviews (apart from your brilliant mag). If so could you please tell me where you get them from.

Richard Warber, Tunbridge Wells, Kent



YOB: Why not try the C&VG Complete Guide To Consoles? It's absolutely full to bursting with reviews of practically all the Sega stuff which you can get your hands on, as well as oodles of hints and tips for the machine. Check out your newsagent - you won't regret it. (Nice plug, Yob - Ed).

HUH?

Dear Yob,
Warning all you computer owners out there! Be on the lookout for a boy named Keir Ballooza, also known as Queer Bazooka Billy. He lives on the White City Estate. If he is let near your computers he will either disintegrate them with his bad breath or if that doesn't do it his socks will.

Anon, Anon's House

PS I could not write who this is from because if he knew who did it he would cut off my mother's eyelids.

YOB: Yes, well, moving swiftly on...

GETTING RESULTS

Dear Yob,
Please please please could you publish some compo results. It's ages since you did!

It would be good for everyone who entered the drawing comps (like the Blasteroids one) to see the winning entry. *Peter Young, Delph, Saddleworth*

YOB: I suppose it would put an end to the endless phone calls from would-be compo winners.

CONFUSED OF SE22 WRITES...

Dear Yob,
In December's Mailbag you had a letter from Marco Van Steen saying he had just finished writing a computer game on the C64. I would like to know what you mean by "writing a computer game on the C64"! Can you make your own games on computers? If so, which computers, and how do you do it? If not, then what does he mean, as I have some brilliant ideas! (for games I mean).

By the way, C&VG is great - keep up the good work!
George Furnish, London SE22

YOB: May I suggest that you throw your computer in the bin, bang your head seventeen times against a brick wall and become a plumber.

SECRET COMPOS

Yo Yob,
I'm a proud owner of a C64, I'm a great shoot 'em up fan and I reckon C&VG is so good it couldn't be better. Well, I'll get straight to the point. Are there going to be any shoot 'em ups released at Christmas - if so, what are they? Also, is there going to be an 8 bit Xenon II in the near future? Last but not least, I'm a great Ghosts And Goblins fan and, as far as I'm concerned, it's still going strong. Whilst looking at Ghosts And Ghosts in your mega mag I noticed that on the top-left hand corner poor Arthur was printed upside down... was this a hush-hush compo or what?

Paul Cooper, Beechwood, Runcorn

YOB: Blame that Walker woman for the cock-ups on the Ghosts And Ghosts spread. I don't know whether it was her fault or not, but blame her anyway.

DYSLEXICS OF THE WORLD UNTIE

Dear Yob,
Please could you send me some information on reviewing? I am in desperation in

the highest grade. I will pay any price I can afford. I don't want to be a reviewer because of the fame, it's because I now it's the kind of job I would be good at.

I am in the fourth year at secondary school and I plan to do two years at collage (? - YOB). Hear is a list of subjects I am doing for GCSE's: Information Technology, Modular Science, Religion, Maths, English Literature, English Language, History, Geography.

Could you tell me what are the more important for high grades are.

Daniel Curley

PS I sent a letter like this to Mr Rignall but he ignored it.

YOB: For a start, I think a course in spelling and basic grammar techniques would come in handy. And what's the point of spending two years sticking bits of coloured toilet paper to a piece of cardboard? I can assure you that Jaz didn't ignore your previous letter - he had it framed and reads it whenever he's feeling depressed.

HOW DID YOU SCORE?

20pts and less: A completely and utterly hopeless loser with no brains at all. Go away and become a train spotter.

21-50: Just utterly hopeless. Read C+VG and find out more about computer games or be a thick twit for the rest of your life.

51-100: Pretty thick. But it's nothing that a regular dose of C+VG can't rectify.

101-150: Average. You know quite a bit about computer games, but not enough to bluff an expert.

151-200: Above average. A pretty smart dude who knows his stuff.

201-250: Smarty boots. You take your gaming very seriously!

251-300: Ultra-clever clogs. No doubt you can win friends and influence people with your vast knowledge of computer games.

301-350: Mega-brainbox supremo. People know who to come to when they want to know about computer games.

351-399: An utterly brilliant computer games genius with a brain the size of a planet, although some would call you a smart-ass know-all. Still, apply for a job at C+VG now!

400: Congratulations - you're the biggest ruddy cheat in the Universe.

ANSWERS TO THE C+VG MEGAQUIZ

1. White, 2. Three, 3. US Gold, 4. Robocop, 5. Monopoly, Scrabble, Trivial Pursuit, Pictionary, Cluedo, 6. Operation Thunderbolt, 7. Rainbow Warrior, 8. Nintendo, 9. The Last Ninja, 10. Action Game, Adventure Game, 11. Sega Master System, 12. Sega Megadrive, in America it's called the Gen-

esis, 13. NEC, 14. Mario Bros, Super Mario Bros, Super Mario Bros II, Donkey Kong, Donkey Kong III, Mario was the bad guy in Donkey Kong Jnr, 15. TurboGrafx, 16. Space Harrier, Fantasy Zone, 17. Lynx, 18. Game Boy, 19. The Lynx has a colour screen, the Game Boy is black and white, 20. Three, 21. Monty, 22. New Zealand Story, 23. Pac-Man, Ms PacMan, PacMan Jnr, 24. Luigi, 25. Dynamite Dux, 26. Miner Willy, his housekeeper is called Maria, 27. Sabre Man, 28. Drax, 29. Bydo, 30. Ghosts 'n' Goblins, Ghosts 'n' Ghosts, 31. Eight (or nine if you're a Sega owner), 32. Four, 33. Eight, 34. Three, 35. Two, Stunt and Speed tracks, 36. Ferrari Testarossa, 37. Ferrari F40, 38. Porsche, 39. A disk drive, 40. A disk, 41. True - the first games released on the C64 were cartridge games, 42. Amstrad, 43. SID, 44. In an Amiga, 45. It didn't fit properly causing it to wobble about and the machine often crashed because of it. Fix it by sticking some blue tack on the bottom to stop it moving about, 46. Star Wars, Empire Strikes Back, Return of the Jedi, the VCS game was Jedi Arena and it was crap, 47. View to a Kill, Living Daylights, Live and Let Die, Licence to Kill, 48. Predator, Red Heat, Running Man, 49. Rambo, Rambo III, Rocky (on the Sega), 50. Untouchables, Highlander, Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade, 51. Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (Action/Adventure), Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom, Indiana Jones and the Lost Kingdom, 52. Alien, Aliens, Ghostbusters, Ghostbusters II, 53. Daley Thompson's Decathlon, Daley Thompson's Super Test, Daley Thompson's Olympic Challenge, 54. Laser disk, 55. Sega, 56. Atari, 57. Polygoniser, 58. Arkanoid, 59. Nemesis, 60. Green Beret, 61. Continental Circuits - a typing error resulted in the English language machines being made with the wrong name on them!, 62. Automatic gear change, 63. Rainbow Islands.

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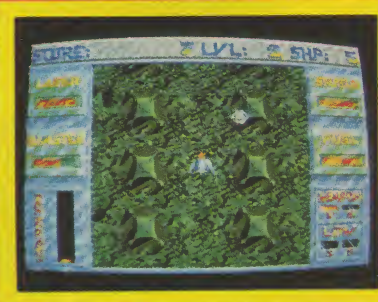
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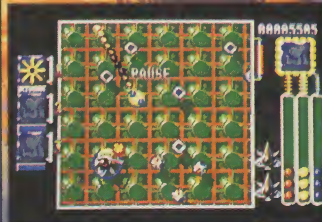
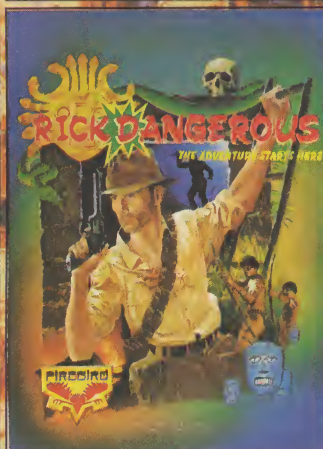


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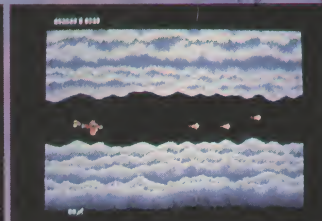
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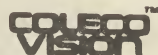
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PLAYMASTERS

Happy Christmas!! With the Yuletide hols looming large on the horizon, I thought I'd try and get together as many tips as possible on new and old games, so you can get out the games you've bought during the year (and maybe even last year) that you might not have played all the way through to the end, and give them another crack. So it's pages and pages of POKES and mini tips all the way! If you've got some tips (I'm sure you will, with plenty of time to play all those new games you'll get for Christmas), send them in to me at: **PLAYMASTERS, C+VG, PRIORY COURT, 30-32 FARRINGTON LANE, LONDON,**



EC1R 3AU. If you're tips are the best of the month, you'll win 100 quid's worth of software for your computer. See you! And have a happy New Year!

SEGA ACTION FIGHTER

On the title screen, enter your name as **SPECIAL** and you'll start the game with A, B, C and D and will be invincible to enemy shots. You can still crash, though, so take care when you drive along the ground.

NINTENDO LEGEND OF ZELDA

Danny Stevens of Stratford, London has a neat tip. Just enter your name as **ZELDA** and you begin the game on the second quest.

KUNG-FU

Another Danny Stevens tip, this time to help you boost that highscore. If you

high kick every twelfth gripper you get a 5000 point bonus. If you shake a gripper off he doesn't count as one - so make sure you hit or kick eleven men before you high kick.

AMIGA BATMAN THE MOVIE

Grant Maclean from Glasgow has an interesting tip. I don't know whether it works 'cos some smelly git has walked off with the office copy of the game - but I'm sure there's no harm trying. When the screen with both the Batman and the Joker appears, type in **JAM**, keeping each key depressed for a couple of seconds before going onto the next one, and then keep pressing the M key until the screen turns upside down. When you start the game press **F10** and you automatically advance a level.

C64 BATMAN THE MOVIE

When you clear the first level, reset the computer and load up the second level. Get killed, rewind to the start of the second level and press play. The second level loads again, but you have unlimited lives for the rest of the game. Good one that - thanks to Gerrard Morris of Belfast for that.

POWER DRIFT

When you're going over a hill, stick to the middle of the road and you won't get hit by other cars as they always stick to the left or right hand side of the road.

GHOSTS 'N' GOBLINS

Now that this great conversion has been re-released on budget, I thought it was high time I doled out these old POKES from my collection - they're great fun. First of all load the game, then reset the computer (either a reset switch, or a cartridge with a reset should do the trick) and type in one of the following POKES. Don't try too many at once or the game will crash...

POKE 2240,0 to raise the time limit to nine minutes
POKE 3901,0 for infinite time

POKE 7086,0 to disable zombie collision detection
POKE 7086,1 to turn zombies into spitting plants
POKE 7086,11 to make zombies disappear as soon as they appear
POKE 7086,16 to make

zombies into giants

POKE 7086,28 to make zombies carry you about (hilarious)

POKE 2275,252 to make the game really fast (even more hilarious)

When you've entered your **POKE**, type **SYS 2128** to restart the game.

SPECTRUM

VIGILANTE

Here's a useful tip from Marcus Tomlow of Hodge Hill, Birmingham. Start the game in yukky colour mode and commence playing. Then press as many keys as you can at once. This takes you to the highscore table. Wait for the menu to appear, then press 1 to restart the game with infinite lives for all five levels.

ST

SNOOPY

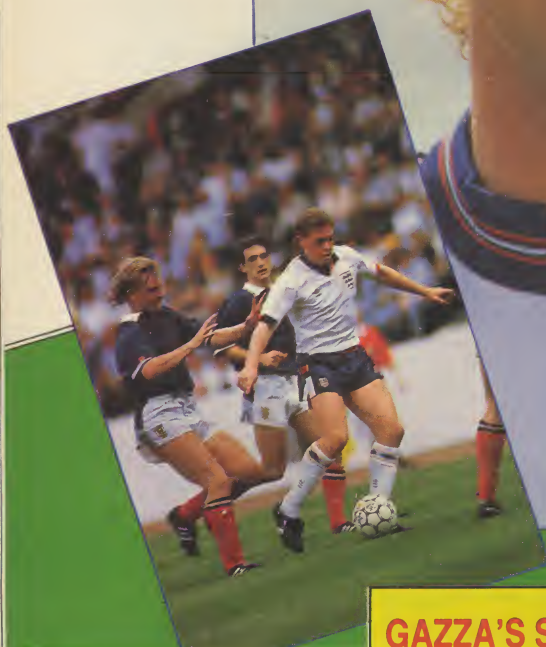
Having trouble getting hold of that elusive blanket. Well, read the following complete solution from David Beer who lives in the lovely town of Newquay (great arcades there) in Cornwall, and things should become much easier.

Pick up the food bowl and go right. Give the bowl to Charlie Brown, wait and eat the food. Go to the hut, pick up the typewriter, use and give letter to Charlie Brown. Eat cookies and use the cookie jar to catch the frog. Get umbrella, and use it to walk under the rain cloud and get the ball. Kick the ball onto

Gazza's

SUPER SOCCER

Paul Gascoigne



GAZZA'S SUPER SOCCER – SIMPLY SENSATIONAL

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| Name | Barnes |
| Team | Liverpool |
| Height | Short |
| Hair Colour | Black |
| Complexion | Fair |
| Style | Marine |



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the river, pick up the coin and jump over barrels and ball. Toss the coin into the well.

Jump back across and get catapult. Jump back and burst the balloons. Get the pump. Pump up Lucy's paddling pool. Fill pool with hose water. Get frog in jar and scare Lucy by letting the frog loose.

Pick up horse and take it to the tree with the kite. Get pump and pump up the horse. Jump on horse to get the kite. Go to the rain cloud with the kite, and give the kite to Charlie Brown. Follow him, pick up the key, use key in school lockers. Get blanket and give it to Linus. You've completed the game, hurrah.

STRIDER

Pause the game with the F9 key, then hold down the HELP key, left SHIFT and 1 key together. Unpause the game and press 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to start on any of those levels.

ALL FORMATS

ROBOCOP

If you're having trouble with Ocean's biggest-selling game of the year, take heed of James Geehan from Asworth in Nottinghamshire - he's got some advice that I'd buy for a dollar.

LEVEL ONE: THE STREET

The most important thing to remember is not to rush through the levels - you only get into all sorts of trouble. Always crouch down when criminals run towards you, then hit them.

If there are gunmen on the pavement, simply crouch down again and fire and they'll be unable to get you. The men dressed in blue are a real pain, so when they jump towards you, kill them when they're within punching distance just before they land. And don't give them a chance to fire at you.

At the end of the level is

ED-209 - he approaches when the last man is killed. Fire as he comes towards you, then jump when he fires downwards at you, and open fire as he retreats. Keep doing this manoeuvre until the machine is destroyed.

LEVEL TWO: THE HIDEOUT

The criminals fire from high platforms, so try and knock them out fast. Watch out for the chainsaw men, as they try and jump on you, and be careful of the door which slams down.

If you're having trouble with the criminals who fire out of windows, jump up onto crates to avoid their fire, then quickly leap off and fire back.

The van is the final obstacle on this level - try and approach it with at least some three-way fire bullets. It only takes a couple of shots to get rid of the men riding on top, and once they're eliminated, shooting the van enough times to blow it up is easy.

PHOTOFIT

This section can get very confusing. The best tactic is to concentrate on one side of the face - for example, if you're matching the ears, just try and match the right ear, rather than looking at the face as a whole.

LEVEL THREE: THE JUNK YARD

The main problem here are the giant magnets and the car crushers. To get past them easily, just position Robocop so his gun just touches the obstacle, and when it rises to just above head height, rush under it.

To stand a chance of beating the giant crane you need the manta gun, so when you get it be careful not to waste it all on standard villains - punch them to save bullets. Stand on the left of the screen, and let rip when the crane approaches.

HOSTAGE SECTION

The way to succeed here is to aim just to the right of

the villain at about chest height and keep firing. He eventually walks into the firing line and drops dead.

LEVEL FOUR: NARCOTICS FACTORY

Keep an eye out for falling beams, and stay alert since the criminals attack from all angles in big groups - be especially careful they don't come out of the doors in front of you.

The end of level guardian is another crane. It's useful if you can save some manta shots like on the previous level. If you have run out, just go to the extreme left of the screen and keep jumping and firing.

LEVEL FIVE: OCP

As well as criminals, you also have gun turrets firing at you, which should be taken out as quickly as possible.

The guardian is a green ED-209 - he's tough and you need to fire and dodge quickly to survive. Just jump when he shoots and fire back whenever there's an opportunity to do so.

THERMOGRAPH PHOTOFIT

Like the other photofit, concentrate on one half of the face.

LEVEL SIX: OCP

The gun turrets shoot at you from higher levels, but they're a lot easier to take out.

Look at the forcefields before you attempt to cross them, they come on in predictable patterns, a it's easy to suss out when it's safe to cross.

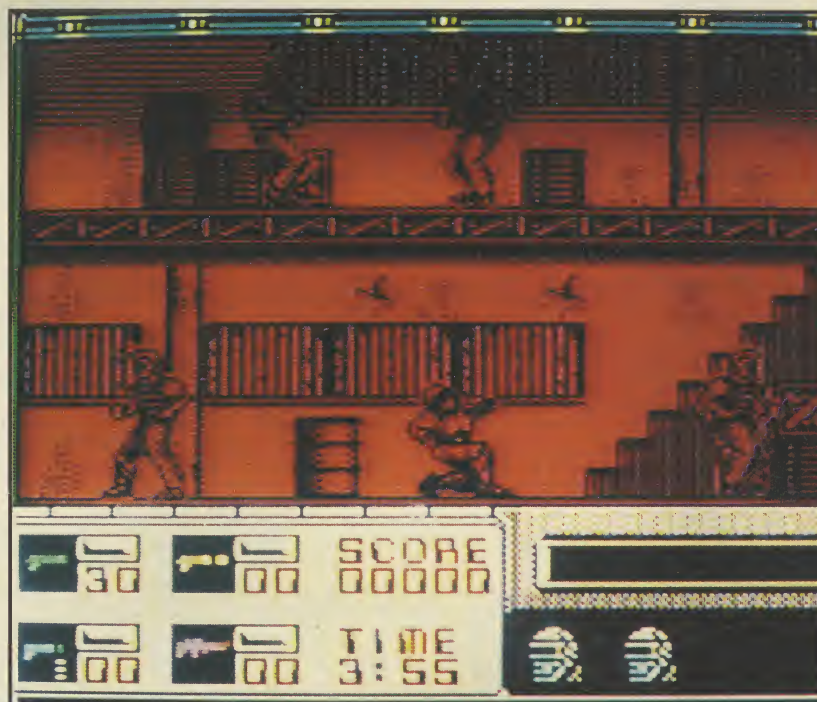
The best way to deal with the robot bombers is to kneel and fire before they start chucking explosives around. Watch out for criminals and gun turrets when you're travelling up in lifts - they tend to fire at you. Don't be afraid to whizz back down again if things are hot.

Another ED-209 lies in wait at the end of the level. This one only needs a few accurate hits before it explodes.

FINAL STAGE: PRESIDENT HELD HOSTAGE

As with the other hostage stage, stay just to the right of Dick Jones and he should walk into your line of fire - although take a little more care here as he moves left and right faster than the previous villain. Just remember to keep following him with your gun sight and you should be able to hit him.

Good luck - and stay out of trouble.



C64 POKES BO

Here's the biggest list of C64 POKEs ever, kindly sent in by Colin Taylor of Anfield, Liverpool. If you've got a C128, all you have to do is load the game, then reset the machine keeping your finger on the Commodore key on the bottom left of the keyboard. If you've got a C64 you'll have to get hold of a reset switch or a cartridge with a reset switch to get the POKEs to work. Again, load the game, and then just press the reset switch, enter the POKEs, pressing return after each one, and then type in the SYS number and press return again to restart the game with your selected changes.

1985 UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 24036,0 SYS 20000
720 DEGREES UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 2398,173 SYS
2128
720 DEGREES UNLIMITED MONEY POKE 11793,96 SYS
2128

ACTION BIKER UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 19287,47 SYS
13312
ANCIPITAL UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 18679,173 SYS
16384
ATTACK OF THE MUTANT CAMELS 255 LIVES POKE
11639,255 SYS 4096

BACK TO REALITY UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 20109,173
SYS 16384

BACK TO REALITY STOPS SPRITE COLLISION POKE
27337,96 SYS 16384

BALL BLASTA UNLIMITED BATS POKE 6108,173 SYS
2560

BIG MAC UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 4170,250 SYS 19072

BLACK HAWK 255 LIVES POKE 8290,255 SYS 8192

BMX SIM UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 13937,0 SYS 4096

BMX SIM SPECIAL POKE 53277,255 SYS 4096

BMX SIM SPECIAL POKE 53271,255 SYS 4096

BOMB JACK UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 5112,0 SYS 3101

BOMB JACK II UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 7053,200 SYS

39712

BRAIN STORM FREEZES SCORE POKE 14500,173 SYS
16384

BRAVESTARR UNLIMITED TIME POKE 14500,173 SYS
7236

BREAKTHRU UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 5647,3 SYS 2560

BUCK ROGERS UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 33182,250 SYS
32782

BUG BLASTER UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 18760,234 SYS
18360

CATABALL UNLIMITED TIME POKE 25132,96 SYS 4096

CAULDRON II 255 PUMPKINS POKE 36152,255 SYS
32777

CAVELON UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 25728,96 SYS 11480
CHALLENGE OF THE GOBOTS UNLIMITED LIVES POKE
28798,80 SYS 16384

CHILLER UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 22957,173 SYS 50758
CHINA MINER UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 32776,0 SYS

33127

CHUBBY GRISTLE UNLIMITED MEN POKE 3613,73 SYS
2994

CHUCKIE EGG 255 LIVES POKE 16851,255 SYS 14848

CHUCKIE EGG 2 UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 24577,1 SYS
18698

CODE HUNTER UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 8759,173 SYS
4700

COMIC BAKERY UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 59582,127
SYS 2304

COMMANDO FASTER GAME POKE 16432,96 SYS 2128

COMMANDO UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 14631,0 SYS 2128

CURSE OF SHERWOOD UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 6404,0
SYS 17423

CYLU UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 39409,173 SYS 49152

DRACONUS UNLIMITED FIRE POKE 5426,173 SYS 2058
DROPZONE 255 BOMBS POKE 2316,255 SYS 1006
DRUID 255 LIVES POKE 39271,255 SYS 5120

ELIDON UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 2811,173 SYS 2304
EXOLON UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 7427,173 SYS 2061
EXOLON UNLIMITED GRENADES POKE 5650,173 SYS
2061

EXOLON UNLIMITED AMMO POKE 7651,173 SYS 2061

FALCON PATROL UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 16705,250
SYS 16640

FEUD ALL INGREDIENTS POKE 16404,15 SYS 16384

FIGHTING WARRIOR UNLIMITED LIVES POKE

57687,165 SYS 49278

FLYING SHARK UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 7929,173 SYS
2061

FORCE ONE 255 LIVES POKE 2203,255 SYS 2063

FROST BYTE UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 4388,165 SYS
2825

FRUITY LISTEN TO MUSIC POKE 54296,15 SYS 49152

GHOSTBUSTERS UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 38454,96
SYS 24576

GILLIGAN'S GOLD UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 17993,0
SYS 25532

GREAT GIANA SISTERS UNLIMITED LIVES POKE
8257,173 SYS 2098

HAUNTED HOUSE UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 7609,234
SYS 9500

HAWKEYE UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 7468,173 SYS 23558

HAWKEYE UNLIMITED WEAPONS POKE 6105,189 SYS
23558

ONANZA

HE-MAN (US GOLD) UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 6513,173
SYS 18550
HENRY'S HOUSE UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 4063,173
SYS 2560
HIGH NOON 255 LIVES POKE 18033,255 SYS 16384
HOVER BOVVER UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 32133,65 SYS
32768
HYEPRBOWL LISTEN TO MUSIC NO POKE SYS 16427
HYPERCIRCUIT UNLIMITED LIVES 31352,250 SYS 26624

IMHOTEP UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 38054,201 SYS 36443
IRIDIS ALPHA 128 LIVES POKE 16411,128 SYS 26624

JEOP COMMAND UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 32627,241
SYS 16384

KARNOV UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 32991,165 SYS 32768
KARNOV UNLIMITED TIME POKE 35884,165 SYS 32768
KENTILLA LISTEN TO MUSIC NO POKE SYS 55236
KILLER WATT UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 40305,234 SYS
33792
KONG 255 LIVES POKE 12176,255 SYS 12128
KUNG-FU MASTER UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 34142,128
SYS 32768

LAZY JONES UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 4063,173 SYS
2061
LIGHT FORCE UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 11547,5 SYS
6713
LIVING DAYLIGHTS UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 4390,238
SYS 4352
MEGA APOCALYPSE INDESTRUCTIBLE PL 1 POKE
32417,173 SYS 22562
MEGA APOCALYPSE INDESTRUCTIBLE PL 2 POKE
32509,173 SYS 22562
MOTOR MANIA 255 LIVES POKE 8646,255 SYS 8000
MUTANT MONTY UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 21647,173
SYS 22039
MUTANTS UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 9273,230 SYS 4096

NEMESIS 255 LIVES POKE 5868,255 SYS 5768
NINJA HAMSTER UNLIMITED ENERGY POKE 18480,173
SYS 16435
NINJA SCOOTER SIMULATOR STOPS CLOCK POKE
31250,173 SYS 29696

OINK MORE RUBBISHMEN POKE 39922,165 SYS 16384
OLLI AND LISA UNLIMITED POWER POKE 8844,165
SYS 7427

PAC MAN UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 5737,254 SYS 2064
PANDORA STOP TIMER POKE 7185,0 SYS 3887
PANDORA FASTER "ANNIE" POKE 7701,0 SYS 3887
PANTHER UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 14127,169 SYS 4096

PARALLAX UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 5796,96 SYS 319
PARK PATROL UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 26700,191 SYS
2076
P.O.D. UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 26364,173 SYS 26112
POSTER PASTER 255 LIVES POKE 17826,255 SYS 37874

QUINTIC WARRIOR UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 8547,173
SYS 8233

RED MAX UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 8547,173 SYS 2064
ROBIN OF THE WOOD 255 LIVES POKE 36391,255 SYS
16384
ROLLAROUND UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 43523,44 SYS
19000
RYGAR UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 9551,165 SYS 2325

SABOTEUR 255 LIVES POKE 56325,255 SYS 30735
SABRE WOLF UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 45219,173 SYS
2061

SCOOBY DOO UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 7450,96 SYS
2560
SENTINEL NO ENERGY DRAIN POKE 6664,96 SYS 16128
SHADOW SKIMMER UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 25761,234
SYS 31232

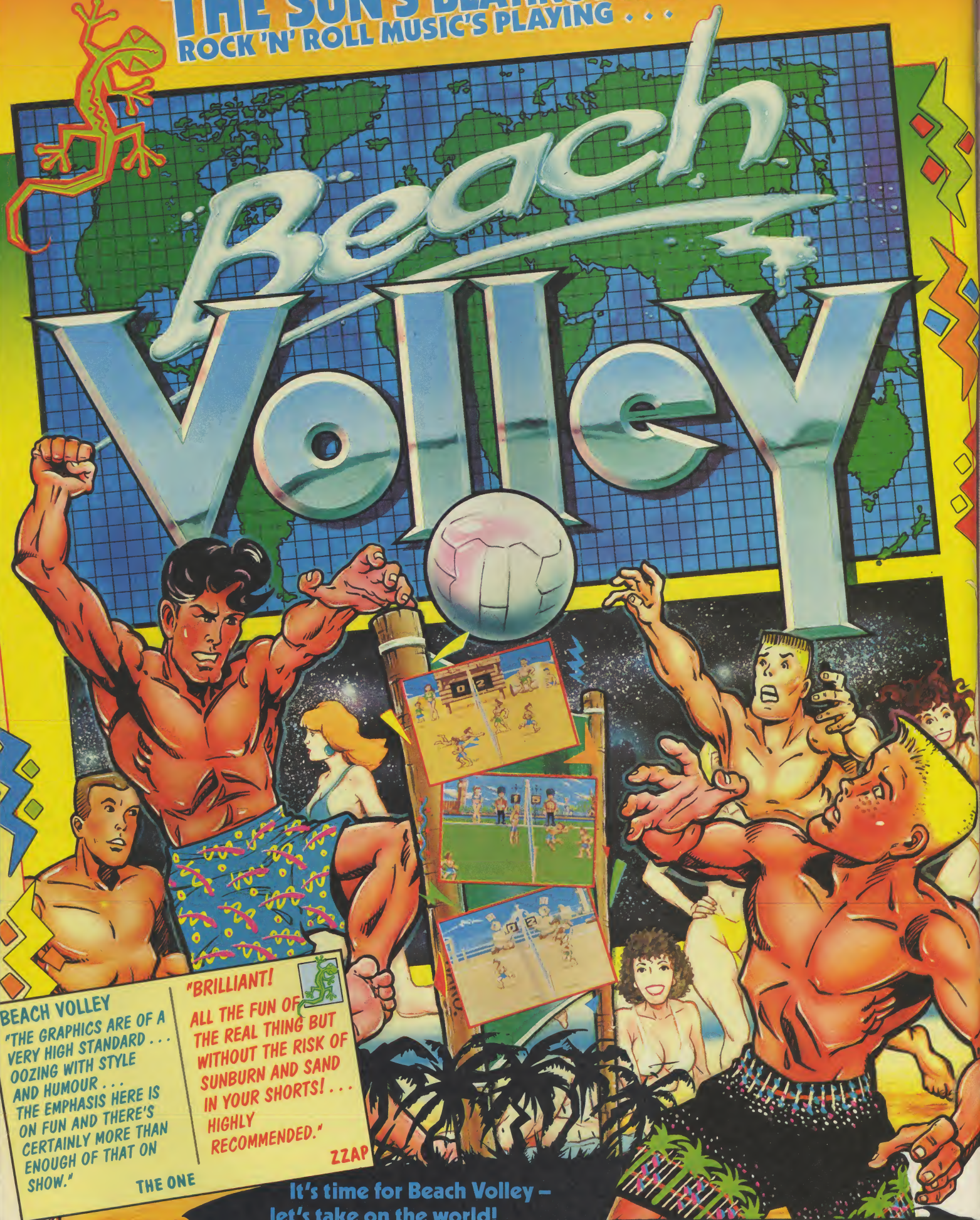
SHADOWFIRE STOPS TIMER POKE 25188,173 SYS
16384
SKYJET UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 27792,250 SYS 29350
SLAMBALL UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 3245,250 SYS 2066
SORCERY MORE TIME POKE 56325,255 SYS 31744
SPACE HARRIER UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 6010,173
SYS 2128
SPOOKS UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 14919,32 SYS 5616
SPORE UNLIMITED ENERGY POKE 6313,96 SYS 4096
SPY HUNTER 255 LIVES POKE 35914,255 SYS 32782
STAFF OF KARNATH UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 5634,45
SYS 2560

STARQUAKE UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 3661,169 SYS
3075
STARQUAKE UNLIMITED CLOUDS POKE 19161,169
SYS 3075
STARQUAKE UNLIMITED AMMO POKE 9559,169 SYS
3075
STARQUAKE REMOVES ENEMIES POKE 4614,96 SYS
3075
STARQUAKE FASTER GAME POKE 12540,1 SYS 3075
STEALTH UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 30590,173 SYS 53055
STUNT BIKE SIMULATOR UNLIMITED ATTEMPTS POKE
5526,173 SYS 3584

TERMINATOR UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 8323,255 SYS
6704
TERRA COGNITA UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 26703,255
SYS 24576
TRAIN ROBBERS HORSE POWER POKE 15758,173 SYS
6871
TRAP DOOR UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 14914,96 SYS
14336

UNDERWURLDE UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 34404,45 SYS
36209
UP 'N' DOWN UNLIMITED LIVES POKE 36103,173 SYS
32768

THE SUN'S BEATING DOWN,
ROCK 'N' ROLL MUSIC'S PLAYING . . .



BEACH VOLLEY
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VERY HIGH STANDARD . . .
OOZING WITH STYLE
AND HUMOUR . . .
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ON FUN AND THERE'S
CERTAINLY MORE THAN
ENOUGH OF THAT ON
SHOW."

THE ONE

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THE REAL THING BUT
WITHOUT THE RISK OF
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RECOMMENDED."

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BATTLE-HAWKS 1942

● Promotions on offer for successful missions are CADET (America only), ENSIGN LIEUTENANT JUNIOR (Japan only), LIEUTENANT, LIEUTENANT COMMANDER and COMMANDER. Japanese pilots are more likely to be promoted in rank than their American foe because they receive Campaign Medals only.

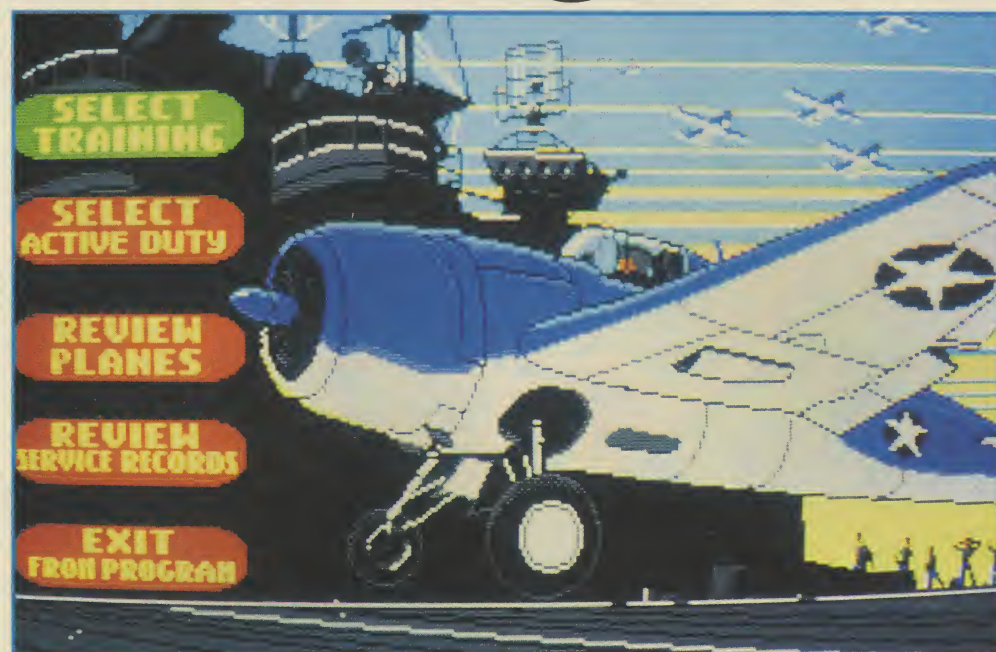
● Learn to fly the planes of each side efficiently before embarking on combat missions. While the Japanese planes are more maneuverable than their USA equivalents and armed with the deadly 20mm cannon, they lack decent armour and the Kato torpedo-bomber has no forward-firing guns.

● Bombers are difficult to destroy as they fly in tight formation and concentrate combined firepower upon selected targets. Armed with both front and rear-facing guns (usually!) they are vulnerable to attack from the side when possible.

One very effective way of dealing with them is to fly behind and slightly below the bombers - if correctly positioned their rear guns will not be able to revolve low enough to return fire and you can shoot them down at your leisure. However, this tactic is not recommended against torpedo-bombers as they fly very close to the water.

● Torpedo attacks generally do much more damage than dive-bombing because the warheads cripple vessels in the vital spot below the water-line. Japanese torpedoes are of a superior quality to the American ones - a carrier normally sinks after suffering three direct hits (one actually managed to sink an enemy destroyer with a single warhead!). Extensive damage is inflicted if the torpedo is released at the last possible moment, when your plane is very close to the target vessel.

● It is sometimes worthwhile



to destroy the enemy Combat Air Patrol (CAP) before beginning a bombing run. During this time, your fellow pilots will attack the enemy ships and may be successful in eliminating some of the opposition. If they score hits all the better, as they will boost your chances of promotion and may even complete the mission for you! Another advantage is that burning vessels fire less or no flak, resulting in an easier bombing run with less risk of being hit. There will obviously be more anti-aircraft fire the nearer you get to the ships, and it is here that you must be especially careful.

● Japanese pilots occasionally try kamikaze attacks against American ships. These strikes occur if (a) the Japanese are suffering heavy losses or (b) if their warheads have missed the target.

● Japanese pilots occasionally try kamikaze attacks against American ships. These strikes occur if (a) the Japanese are suffering heavy losses or (b) if their warheads have missed the desired targets. Sometimes, a Japanese pilot, before bailing out, will aim his plane at a vessel if badly damaged.

● Some pilots may differ from their classes as shown at the ready room. For

example, a squadron of veterans may contain a couple of pilots who are of ace quality.

● If a mission is going badly, dive toward the ocean and fly around the ships, even if they are enemy. They will fire every available gun at you and, although you will have to run the gauntlet of flak, so will any enemy planes which choose to follow you. As the flak guns are very inaccurate, they have a greater possibility of hitting their own aircraft.

● A good diving technique is to begin the dive as normal but turn to the rear gunner screen. The altimeter will spin around like crazy, much faster than usual (so long as you remain on this screen) but remember to pull out of the dive before you hit the ocean. This is an excellent tactic to employ when avoiding pursuers or if you want to end your dive-bombing run. Unfortunately, trying this technique when climbing simply results in a stall. However, if you fly level and switch to the rear gunner screen, any distant objects which you are heading for will be much closer when you return to the pilot's screen. Therefore any fleeing planes will normally be caught up by using this method until you are within firing range.

A black and white photograph of a man from the chest up, wearing a denim jacket over a collared shirt. He is looking down and slightly to his left. His right hand is near his chest, and a BarclayPlus card is visible in the jacket's pocket. The background is dark and out of focus.

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TALKING TO



BARCLAYS

Welcome to the Official UK Video Game High-score table, where the record scores are displayed. If you can beat them, why not send in your scores to: **HIGHSCORES, C+VG, PRIORY COURT, 30-32 FARRINGDON LANE, LONDON, EC1R 3AU.** If they're passed as genuine by our panel of experts, we'll include them in the high-score tables - and be prepared for instant fame!

SEGA

ACTION FIGHTER

8,763,400 Jay Brown, Banbury, Oxfordshire

AFTERBURNER

17,404,100 Kenneth Rorie, Craig-shill, Livingston

ALEX KIDD (LOST STARS)

1,294,500 Dennis Watts, London

ALTERED BEAST

508,200 Alan Peplow, Hednesford, Staffs

ASTRO WARRIOR

1,270,200 Daniel Greetham, Tamworth, Staffs

AZTEC ADVENTURE

256,400 Peter Ramdine, Stafford

BANK PANIC

938,800 Tony Holdford, Colchester

BLACK BELT

4,293,156 Harry Webb, Glasgow

BOMBER RAID

1,116,700 M G Baker, E Grinstead, W Sussex

CALIFORNIA GAMES

HALFPIPE: 29,500 Alan McPherson, Giffnock, Glasgow

FOOTBAG: 119,270 Jonathan Goodell, Chepstow, Gwent

SURFING: 8.8 Alan McPherson, Giffnock, Glasgow

SKATING: 4160 Alan McPherson, Giffnock, Glasgow

BMX: 114,800 Alan McPherson, Giffnock, Glasgow

FLYING DISK 1700: Anthony Leeds, Halesowen, W Midlands

CHOPLIFTER

1,400,000 Kenneth Rorie, Craig-shill, Livingston

DOUBLE DRAGON

619,460 Andrew Jackson, Jar-row, Tyne & Wear

FANTASY ZONE

72,865,100 Peter Ramdine, Stafford

FANTASY ZONE II

9,541,980 Jon Evans, Walsall

GANGSTER TOWN

528,150 Conrad Hadnett, Havant, Hants

GLOBAL DEFENCE

541,160 Anthony Hoult, Walsall

GHOST HOUSE

1,175,650 James Denham, London

GREAT BASEBALL

22-01 Robert Gammon, Bedford

HANG-ON

8,553,264 Euan Matheson, Ross-hire

KENSEIDEN

226,100 Martin Hudd, Stroud, Gloucestershire

MY HERO

11,773,030 Sean Hanna, Newry, Co Down

OUT RUN

53,730,420 Allan Black, Desborough, N Hants

POWER STRIKE

65,242,300 Paul Stokes, Aberdare

QUARTET

3,170,810 Gareth Willis, Bristol

RAMBO III

86,050 Neil Kelly, Isleworth, Middlesex

RAMPAGE

851,600 David Barden, Norwich

RASTAN

1,330,400 Ben Addison, St Austell

RESCUE MISSION

571,400 Paul Stokes, Aberdare, Wales

R-TYPE

4,308,500 John Bristow, Erith, Kent

SAFARI HUNT

5,284,000 Martin Jarvis, Stourbridge

SECRET COMMAND

3,285,400 Paul Stokes, Aberdare, Wales

SHINOBI

1,321,000 John Moulding, Sunderland

SPACE HARRIER

30,010,880 Alan Peplow, Hednesford, Staffs

SPACE HARRIER 3D

12,035,670 Allan Black, Desborough

THUNDERBLADE

2,608,700 John Moulding, Sunderland

VIGILANTE

154,200 Philip Paxton, Southport, Merseyside

WONDERBOY (MONSTER-LAND)

10,509,990 William Wong, Nr Stockport, Cheshire

WONDERBOY III

350,100 Wai-Yin Man, Brighton, E Sussex

WORLD SOCCER

24-0 Simon White, Wollaton, Nottingham

ZILLION II

984,200 Conrad Hadnett, Havant, Hants

MEGADRIVE

GHOULS AND GHOSTS

115,200 Lee Quelch, Essex

SPACE HARRIER II

24,260,200 Wai Yin Man, Brighton, E Sussex

THUNDERFORCE II

1,982,700 Julian Rignall, C+VG

HIGH SCORES

NINTENDO

BALLOON FIGHT

431,050 Sherif Salama, Egypt

CASTLEVANIA

999,999 Lee Watkins, Bristol

DUCK HUNT

1,058,500 Aaron Pearson, Forth

GOLF

71 Damien Moriarty, Queensland, Australia

ICE CLIMBER

671,350 Paul Stokes, Aberdare

KUNG-FU

738,900 Brendan Newman, Melbourne, Australia

GHOSTS AND GOBLINS

105,700 Iain Bowden, Bearsden, Glasgow

GRADIUS

12,670,000 Julian Rignall, C+VG

PRO-AM RACING

305,692 M C Warlock, Plymouth

RUSH 'N' ATTACK

969,800 Iain Bowden, Bearsden, Glasgow

SUPER MARIO BROS

9,999,990 David Hillhouse, Workington

TOP GUN

175,000 M C Warlock, Plymouth

GAMEBOY

SUPER MARIOLAND

377,040 Sebastian Davis, Warrington, Sussex

TETRIS

271,789 Julian Rignall, C+VG

PC ENGINE

ALIEN CRUSH

110,301,300 Steve Creasey, Dorking, Surrey

ALTERED BEAST

262,100 Lee Mallett, Danbury, Essex

CHAN AND CHAN

1,519,500 William Wong, Nr Stockport, Cheshire

DEEP BLUE

201,930 Steve Creasey, Dorking, Surrey

DRUNKEN MASTER

999,999 Bryan Servante, Stevenage

FANTASY ZONE

2,408,700 Julian Rignall, C+VG

GALAGA 88

1,436,480 Bryan Servante, Stevenage

GUNHEAD

13,975,270 William Azzoug, Spalding, Lincs

NINJA WARRIORS

160,310 Tony Lorenzo, London

ORDYNE

445,900 Julian Rignall, C+VG

P-47

1,118,300 Steve Creasey, Dorking, Surrey

R-TYPE

973,300 Onn Lee, Nottingham

PACLAND

1,990,800 Julian Rignall, C+VG

SIDEARMS

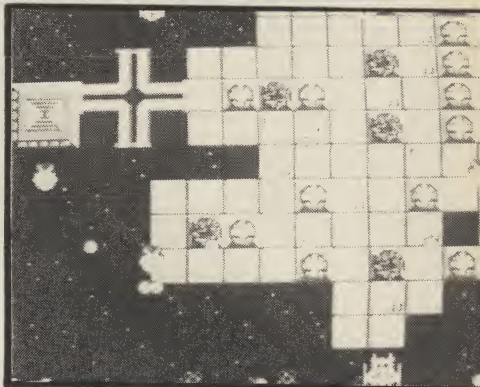
1,191,500 William Azzoug Spalding, Lincs

SON SON II

598,600 Andrew Sandle, Clacton-On-Sea, Essex

SPACE HARRIER

26,850,000 Martin Harris, Burton-



on-Trent

SUPER WONDERBOY

569,160 William Wong, Stockport

TWIN HELI

1,467,900 Julian Rignall, C+VG

VIGILANTE

99,990 Anthony Bennett, Worksworth, Derbyshire

C64

ALTERED BEAST

302,900 C Maddocks, Killammarsh, Sheffield

ARKANOID

564,900 Graham Gurgan, Co. Down, N Ireland

ARMALYTE

30,475,400 Danny Gleghorn, Workson

BATMAN - THE MOVIE

616,420 Gaspart Arnand, Belgium

BOMBUZAL

326,060 Jack Howarth, Failsworth, Manchester

BLASTEROIDS

3,562,950 Graham Gurgan, Co. Down, N Ireland

BUBBLE BOBBLE

5,360,280 Jens Schroder, Suhlendorf, Germany

DALEY THOMSON'S CHALLENGE

10,670 Tony Repo, Helsinki

DENARIS

417,700 Carl Patterson, Walsall, W Midlands

DRAGON NINJA

89,950 Philip Steventon, Stafford

GREAT GIANNA SISTERS

128,628 Gaspart Arnand, Belgium

IK+

588,000 Ste Markey, Liverpool

LAST NINJA II

999,810 Tim Pickup, Darwen, Lancs

MICKY MOUSE

567,650 Daniel King, Manchester

NEW ZEALAND STORY

3,415,600 Luke Hetherington, Yeovil

OPERATION WOLF

1,000,300 B Hardcastle, Cranleigh, Surrey

PACMANIA

1,950,220 Mark Henn, Highgate, London

RAMBO III

68,450 Andrew Roberts, Walsall, W Midlands

RENEGADE III

79,995 Jukka Piira, Finland

R-TYPE

678,360 Luca Ceccarelli, Tirli, Italy

HIGH SCORES



SALAMANDER

303,400 David Leitch, Milton, Glasgow

SILKWORM

1,072,800 Gaspart Arnand, Belgium

THUNDERBLADE

2,044,190 J M Clayton, Ryton, Tyne & Wear

ST

AFTERBURNER

31,540,000 Louis Moloney, Birmingham

ALIEN SYNDROME

936,800 Andrew Stamp, Portsmouth, Hants

ALTERED BEAST

473,000 Gary Liew, London
730,390 Julian Rignall, C+VG

ARKANOID II

525,630 Jaspal Jandu, London

BAAL

163,450 Stephen Simpson, Otley

BACKLASH

1,450,800 James Boyd, London

BEYOND THE ICE PALACE

199,430 Richard Jeffries, Haddenham, Bucks

BLASTEROIDS

7,473,325 Richard Halton, Horwich, Bolton

BLOOD MONEY

189,300 Imran Mubarak, Peterborough, Cambs

BUBBLE BOBBLE

6,345,720 Colin Tracey, Colchester

BUGGY BOY

107,340 Colin Tracey, Colchester

DRAGON NINJA

104,520 Michael Bell, Cramlington, Northumberland

ELIMINATOR

642,564 Horness Spencer, Redditch, Worcs

EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

550,166 Ian Pinder, Pudsey

FLYING SHARK

4,283,920 Neil Evans, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

FORGOTTEN WORLDS

59,300 Timothy Hodges, Peterborough, Cambs

GHOULS AND GHOSTS

9,996,983 Andrew Dowling, London

IK+

205,100 Niklas Aronsson, Sweden

IKARI WARRIORS

77,550 Craig Sutherland, Scone, Scotland

INDIANA JONES ARCADE

9,350 Richard Coward, Newthorpe, Nottingham

LED STORM

806,950 Richard Davis, London

LICENCE TO KILL

82,430 Timothy Hodges, Peterborough, Cambs

NEW ZEALAND STORY

409,797 Stephen Simpson, Otley, W Yorks

OPERATION WOLF

305,250 Aaron Kramer, Morayshire

OUTRUN

54,877,900 Geraalt Evans, Machynlleth, Dyfed

PACLAND

217,526 A Redfearn, Huddersfield, Yorkshire

PAPERBOY

20,550 Ian Currigan, Birmingham

RED HEAT

103,843 Philip Waite, Bradford, W Yorks

RETURN OF THE JEDI

126,955 Ian Pinder, Pudsey

ROBOCOP

401,220 Aaron Kramer, Morayshire

R-TYPE

523,220 Horness Spencer, Redditch, Worcs

SPACE HARRIER

6,143,100 Ben Key, Sheffield

STARGLIDER II

529,599 Stephen Simpson, Otley

STAR WARS

2,479,100 James Tarbey, Liverpool

STRIDER

3,896,999 Andrew Dowling, London

SUPER HANG-ON

34,819,671 Paul Lomas, Can-nock, Staffs

THUNDERBLADE

618,510 Richard Davis, London

VINDICATORS

496,100 Stephen Simpson, Otley

XENON

1,755,890 Andrew Stamp, Portsmouth, Hants

XENON II

312,750 Jaspal Jandu, London

AMIGA

AFTERBURNER

16,189,480 Remko de Gilde, Holland

BARBARIAN II

676,753 Daniel Sprangers, Gressendam, Holland

BATMAN THE MOVIE

2,007,600 Martin Allsop, Burton-On-Trent, Staffs

BLOOD MONEY

177,550 Tim Lehane, Co Cork, N Ireland

CASTLE WARRIOR

805,261 Lior Meiry, Israel

CONTINENTAL CIRCUS

476,330 Martin Allsop, Burton-On-Trent, Staffs

DATASTORM

667,370 Mark Schokker, Wintersburgh, Holland

DENARIS

315,280 Stu+Tony, Chelmsford, Essex

DOMINATOR

219,947 Daniel Sprangers, Gressendam, Holland

FORGOTTEN WORLDS

638,500 Justin Edwards, Bristol

GUNSHIP

39,834 Andrew Aldridge, Erlestone, Wiltshire

HYBRIS

2,171,775 Miguel Lima, Portugal

INDIANA JONES ARCADE

37,300 Remko de Gilde, Holland

LED STORM

574,478 Steven Howard, Lowestoft

LICENCE TO KILL

39,573 Lior Meiry, Israel

NEW ZEALAND STORY

256,821 Mark Blackie, Brockley, London

OPERATION WOLF

1,021,122 Jegi Rahi, Crayford, Kent

PACMANIA

21,356,620 Sou-Helen Varvatou, Athens, Greece

PAPERBOY

107,150 David Pocock, S Croydon, Surrey

RICK DANGEROUS

744,550 Casey Gallacher, Reading, Berkshire

ROADBLASTERS

1,912,824 Allan Black, Desborough, N Hants

ROBOCOP

375,680 Martin Allsop, Burton-On-Trent, Staffs

SILKWORM

3,000,420 Martin Allsop, Burton-On-Trent, Staffs

SPACE HARRIER

7,566,980 Allan Black, Desborough, N Hants

STARGLIDER II

385,492 Kevin Griffiths, Wolverhampton

STRIDER

590,650 Martin Hills, Sittingbourne, Kent

SUPER HANG-ON

22,118,682 Richard Shaw, Keyworth, Notts

SWORD OF SODAN

447,250 Carl Bates, Woolwell, Plymouth

TEST DRIVE

62,470 Asim B, Gants Hill, Essex

TEST DRIVE II

274,370 Petri Nissi, Finland

XENON II

352,780 David Pocock, S Croydon, Surrey

SPECTRUM

AFTERBURNER

59,555,000 John Bristow, Erith, Kent

BATMAN - THE MOVIE

374,090 Paul Macey, Caerleon, Gwent

CRAZY CARS II

202,167 Philip Doak, Ellon, Aberdeenshire

DOUBLE DRAGON

843,440 John Bristow, Erith, Kent

DRAGON NINJA

1,102,060 M C Warlock, Plymouth

FIREFLY

1,643,290 Robert Preston, Warley, W Mids

FORGOTTEN WORLDS

626,500 John Bristow, Erith, Kent

LAST NINJA II

999,999 Steven Symonds,

Chard, Somerset

NEW ZEALAND STORY

501,300 Peter Barnes, Oakworth, Keighley

OPERATION WOLF

914,830 Martin Hills, Sittingbourne, Kent

OUT RUN

24,442,970 Chrissie Brown, Handforth, Cheshire

ROBOCOP

1,899,002 Shaun Gomm, Rickleton, Tyne and Wear

ROLLING THUNDER

156,620 Neil Haylett, Sunbury, Middlesex

THUNDERBLADE

1,944,000 John Bristow, Erith, Kent

WEC LE MANS

439,920 Richard Bilsborrow, Liverpool

AMSTRAD

AFTERBURNER

25,310,570 Craig Nelson, Barnsley, S Yorks

APB

\$38,970 Andrew Buckley, Reading, Berks

BARBARIAN II

23,570 Neil Franklin, Swanley

BLASTEROIDS

106,850 Tim Goldsby, Cheltenham, Glos

BUGGY BOY

124,730 Stephen Kingston, Crewe, Cheshire

CRAZY CARS

9,975,410 Stephen Baker, Tredegar, Gwent

CRAZY CARS II

752,966 Morten Ludvigsen, Nesna, Norway

DARK SIDE

6,518,000 Stu, Melton Mowbray, Leics

DRAGON NINJA

1,088,000 Philip Doak, Ellon, Aberdeenshire

DYNAMITE DUX

156,810 Tim Goldsby, Cheltenham, Glos

GRYZOR

1,264,606 James Campbell, Well-ing, Kent

MR HELI

243,980 Ben Patchesa, Scaldwell, Northants

OPERATION WOLF

447,350 Paun Giunman, Harrow, Middx

OUTRUN

56,708,370 R McDonald, Thurnby, Leics

ROBOCOP

2,794,000 John Bristow, Erith, Kent

SOLOMON'S KEY

Paul Cayzer, Widnes

SORCERY PLUS

128,135 Ben Cumming, Eaglescliffe, Cleveland

TETRIS

9780 James Lodge, Belrer, Derbyshire

VINDICATORS

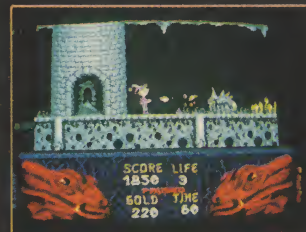
479,000 Giles Taylor, Eastleigh, Hants

WEC LE MANS

408,360 Philip Doak, Ellon, Aberdeenshire

The Seven Gates of

Jambala



ATARI ST



AMIGA



THE SEVEN GATES OF JAMBALA

Escape from the caves of Jambala in this fun-filled jump and run game with stunning graphics and sound.

You will face a labyrinth of caves which not surprisingly hide a host of inhabitants, good and bad, treasures, puzzles, magic spells and many hidden screens.

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A fascinating voyage of discovery through an unknown world of fantasy.

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REVIEW

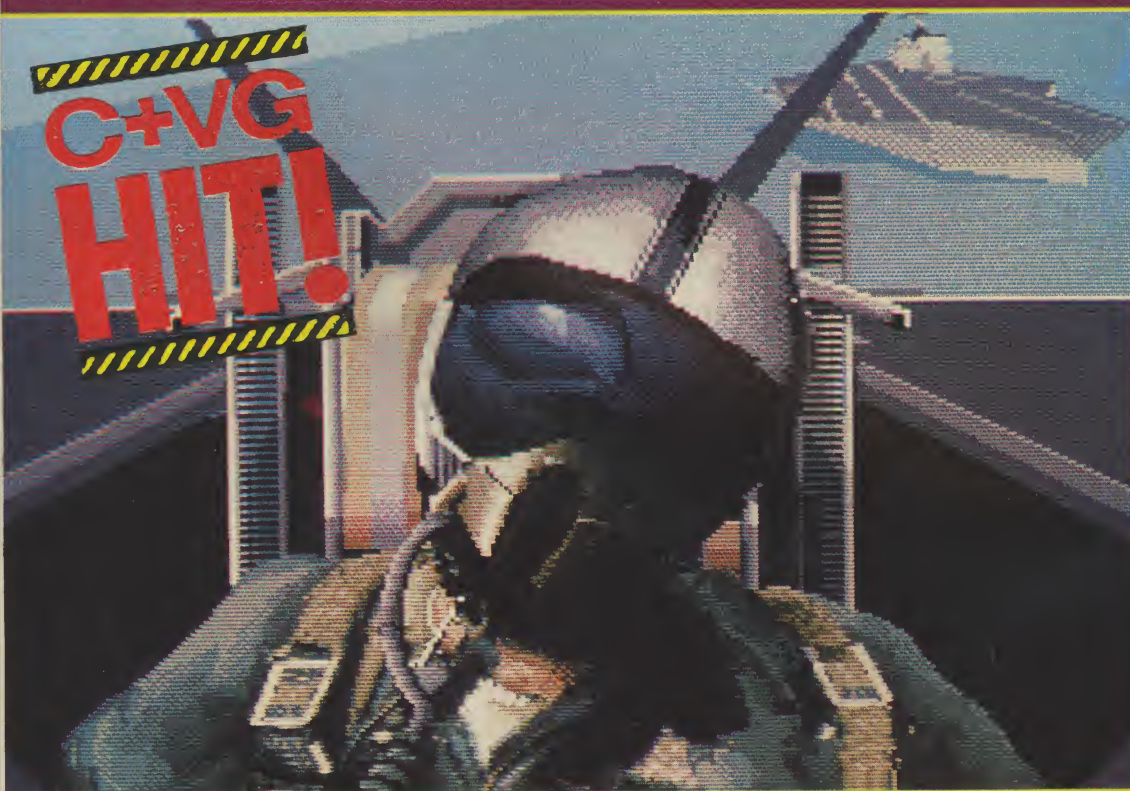
► **AMIGA**

F29

BY OCEAN

RETALIATOR

**C+VG
HIT!**



▲ Soaring over the messes on the

If you've ever wondered what it would be like to fly a fighter plane of the 21st century, here's your chance to find out in Ocean's F29 Retaliator. Set in the year 2010 and based on current and predicted advances in technology, F29 gives the player the opportunity to take a seat in the cockpit of either a Lockheed F22 Advanced Tactical Fighter or a Grumman F29 Multi-Role Fighter and fly 90 different battle scenarios.

The title screen is where it all begins. First the player inputs his name into the pilot's log and selects one of five ranks, effectively selecting the difficulty level. As with all good flight simulations, the pilot's performance is saved from game to game, and the pilot remains active until killed in action, or retired.

▼ The F-22 Stealth Fighter takes to the





Arizona training site.

After that you can choose which aircraft and which scenario to fly. There are four basic war zones: Arizona, a test range where you're given the change to try your luck in a true hostile environment simulation without the danger of actually getting blown up, the Middle East, the Pacific Ocean and Europe, the toughest of all battlezones. A fifth option, and one which really helped me hone my battle skills is Zulu Alert, an aerial combat practice option where you start in the air, have unlimited ammo and a whole squadron of enemy aircraft to bring down. It's basically an all-action shoot 'em up and is great fun, even if you don't score any points!

Once you've chosen a scenario and armed your plane, you can fly a mission. The



Arming up the F-29.

choice is dependent on your rank and how many missions you've already flown. Since promotion is up to the player (you can change rank any time) it's possible to go straight into a very tough mission, but I wouldn't advise it - I was shot down within minutes!

As your pilot progresses through the war, extra secret missions become available - and the outcome can win or lose the war!

Sounds good? It is! F-29 is astounding just to look at, with the fastest, smoothest, most detailed and realistic 3D graphics seen on the Amiga! There are simply hundreds of ground features - cities, complete with skyscrapers for you to fly around, roads, railways, tank platoons, oil refineries,

Patrol the Gulf and protect the tankers.

factories, churches, missile bases... the list goes on. And the cockpit interior graphics are tremendous, giving a thoroughly convincing impression of being there.

But it's the sheer depth that makes F29 the best combat/flight simulation I've seen. The wealth of missions is incredible. From the test range where the player has the opportunity to practice every angle of battle combat - tak-

UPDATE

An ST version should be available by the time you read this. The static graphics aren't as good as the Amiga version, but the 3D is ever so slightly faster. Look out for it.

ing out planes, tanks, trains and military and industrial installations, to complex real-war scenarios involving all sorts of multi-intercept, bombing, reconnaissance and aerial support duties - and that's only the beginning! There are over 90 varied and interesting missions in all, giving enormous lasting appeal.

F29 Retaliator is the absolute apex in flight simulations, and sets the standard by which others will be judged. Fly it and believe it.

JULIAN RIGNALL

AMIGA £24.99

GRAPHICS 94%

SOUND 88%

VALUE 94%

PLAYABILITY 97%

Featuring the most realistic 3D graphics seen on the Amiga and 90 different missions that offer literally months of stimulating air combat, F29 Retaliator is simply the best flight simulator yet.

OVERALL 96%



I'D BUY THAT FOR £400!

WIN YOUR OWN ROBOCOP-ETTE WITH OCEAN

Those Ocean guys are dead chuffed with themselves. Why? Because their game of that totally HARD movie, Robocop, has been topping the Gallup charts all blimmin' year - in fact it was at number one for over six months, "and that makes it a chart-busting, gun-toting, crime-crunching record breaker," as Roy Castle would say!

So to celebrate, they're giving away a fabulous Tomy Omnibot 2000 worth 400, which can't actually twirl an automatic pistol or thump robbers like Robocop, but is still lots of fun. The Omnibot is a fully programmable domestic droid, equipped with a moving head, an articulated gripping arm and it's own integral cassette deck which can store program data. It runs from a remote control unit with a built-in microphone, so next time your Auntie Vera comes over for tea, you can have a laff by driving the Omnibot over to her, switching on the mike and shouting, "Please put down your cheesecake! You have 30 seconds to comply!" She's bound to see the funny side.

As well as the Omnibot, Ocean are also providing three runners-up with a copy of the Robocop video (recently released on sell-through with an Ocean game-of-the-film ad at the start), and a copy of the game. How's that for generous?

Now, what we want you to do is answer the four Robocopy questions on this page, bung your answers on a postcard or sealed-down envelope and send it off toooo: THE "DROP IT, COME QUIETLY AND STAY OUT OF TROUBLE" ROBOCOMP, C+VG, PRIORY COURT, 30-32 FARRINGDON LANE, LONDON, EC1R 3AU. Get your entry to us by 31st of January or there will be... trouble.

ROBOQUESTIONS:

1. Who is the actor who plays Robocop in the movie?
2. What is Robocop's original human name?
3. What is the name of the psycho mega-robot which has it in for Robocop?
4. In which American city is Robocop set?



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ACE MAGAZINE • DECEMBER 89**



BY GRAND-SLAM/THALION

SEVEN GATES OF

JAMBALA



▲ G-YERK! A fireballing boss monster rises from the deep!

A wizard isn't a very good wizard if his wand is knackered, and guess what? Yours has been inadvertently smashed into little pieces.

Seven in fact which, for no apparent reason, have been hidden around the world of Jambala. Now, Jambala is a big place, made up of seven lands each containing seven zones, all absolutely jam-

packed with creepies, and all you have is your spell-casting skills and a putrid purple outfit.

Somewhere within each group of seven stages is a mega-meanie which guards the entrance to the next level. Requiring several shots before it dies, this monster doesn't sit back and let itself be duffed up, preferring in-

▼ Eek! Another boss - this one armed with boomerangs!

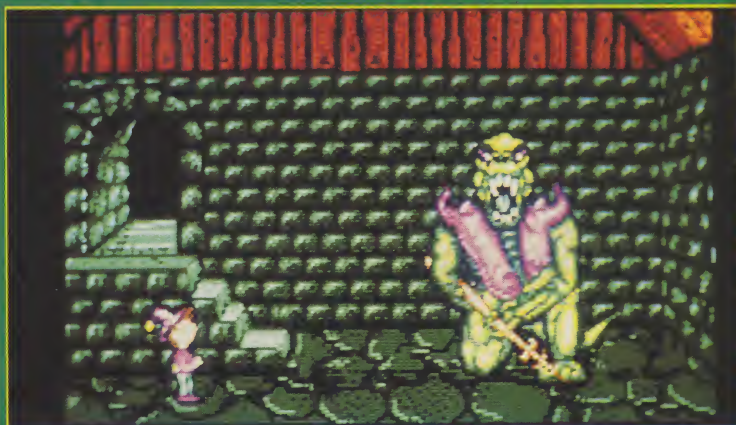


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SCORE
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ST £19.99

GRAPHICS 69%

SOUND 80%

VALUE 71%

PLAYABILITY 78%

UPDATE

Amiga and C64 versions of *Seven Gates Of Jambala* should be arriving in two shakes of a camel's hump, priced at 24.99 and 9.99 respectively. Expect similar gameplay to the ST game, with the C64 sporting less-detailed graphics than the 16 bits.

Another game jumping on the Super Mario bandwagon. But there's enough here to satisfy most lovers of the genre with its addictive pick up 'n' run action.

OVERALL 71%

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GARFIELD 1978 United Features Syndicate Inc

PEANUTS Characters: (c) 1958, 1965 United Feature Syndicate Inc.

The Edge, 36/38 Southampton Street, London WC2, England. Tel: 01-831 1801

TWINWORLD



* Great fun, colourful and addictive too: Overall rating: 81 %

A. Smith
Amiga Format (January issue)

* It's one of the best 16 bit exploration games around. A great combination of platforms and arcade adventure action. Overall rating: 81 %

Computer & Video Games
(January issue)

* Twinworld is a lot of fun! Overall rating: 78 %

Phil King ZZAP (January issue)

A game created
by Blue Byte



Available on ST and Amiga



Screenshots from Amiga Version

UBI SOFT
Entertainment Software

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If you are a regular reader of C+VG, you should now be in possession of one Holoholder and four Holograms. How do you fill those four missing slots you ask? Simple - you buy just three and get an amazing Ghostbusters II hologram FREE!

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OR

Holopreview 2: Interphase

☐

NOVEMBER

Holopreview 3: Power Drift

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OR

Holopreview 4: Power Drift

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JANUARY

Holopreview 7: Chase HQ

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OR

Holopreview 8: Op Thunderbolt

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THE FREE HOLOPREVIEW I WANT IS:

DECEMBER

Holopreview 5: Ghostbusters II

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OR

Holopreview 6: Ghostbusters II

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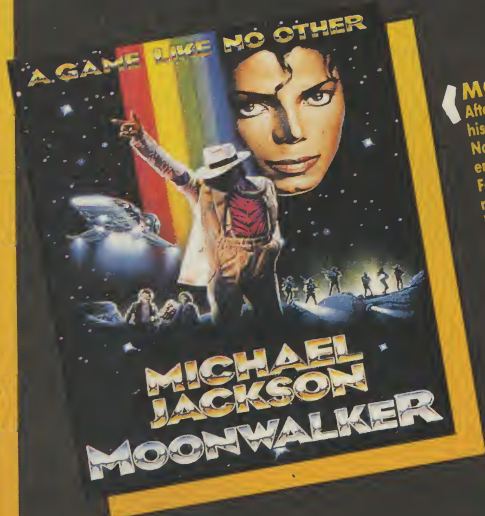
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Twinworld is just the kind of place you'd expect to find a cute, pot-bellied hero called Ulopa, isn't it? Of course it is. Ulopa is the son of the last King of the Cariken line, a ruling family who wisely watched over a peaceful and prosperous people (called Gaspards) for centuries.

Stupidly, the Carikens got lazy, allowing a horrible druid called Maldur to slaughter them and steal their magical,

Each landscape contains an upper and lower world, which you have to hop between to find the correct route to the amulet and a warp door. On the way you can pick up some handy treasures for points, extra lives and potions, discover secret rooms and kill or avoid opponents. Some of them - like truffids and mini Gribbly-style dragons - take plenty of shots to kill. At the end of every fourth level you come



▲ That mouth leads onto the upper world.

TWIN WORLD

protective amulet. Only Ulopa survived, sneaked away by his father's faithful servant, Tharox. When Maldur tried to destroy the amulet, it blew up in his face, scattering 23 pieces around the kingdom. Once he reached shaving age, Ulopa swore vengeance, and set off to recover the missing pieces of amulet.

Before waving a tearful goodbye, Tharox imparted some nifty magical tricks to the wee scamp, allowing him to shoot powerful fireballs from his eyes. Finding coloured potions (they're everywhere within the 23 landscapes) allows Ulopa to select one of three eye-weapons, which quickly dispatch Maldur's meddling minions and allow him to get further.



▲ Ooh! A treasure room!

across a treasure room packed with goodies, sometimes guarded by big dragons. This is the place to pick up all those handy extra points.

If there's something you don't have, just summon a seller and he'll usually give you what you want at a reasonable price. There are also plenty of bonus objects to be had. For example, if you leap too far, the fall kills you; picking up a parachute means

BY UBI SOFT

you can jump any distance, and you'll simply float to earth. Other handy goodies include bigger jumps and shot enhancements.

Twinworld is a great combination of platform and arcade adventure action. The control method and map design are both excellent, allowing you to progress just that little bit further every game - you soon learn which gaps are too big to jump, and re-exploring the same territory doesn't get boring. In all, it's one of the best 16 bit exploration games around.

GORDON HOUGHTON



UPDATE

An ST version, oozing oodles of pot-bellied fun, is being converted to the ST at this very moment. PC, C64 and Amstrad versions will be available sometime next year, but sadly there are no plans to convert Twinworld to the Spectrum.

| | |
|-------------|--------|
| AMIGA | £24.99 |
| GRAPHICS | 79% |
| SOUND | 74% |
| VALUE | 78% |
| PLAYABILITY | 87% |

Cute graphics, excellent animation and pleasant tunes are just a sideline to Twinworld's great playability - check it out.

OVERALL 81%

1000%

DYNAMITE

AFTER BURNER



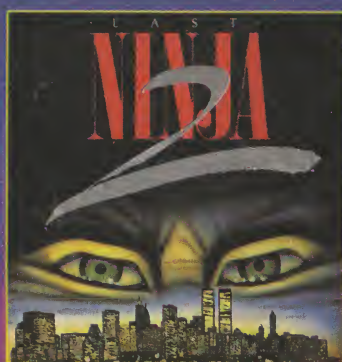
SHAKE... RATTLE... ROLL IT

AFTERBURNER — You've played the arcade smash — now experience the white-knuckled realism of a supersonic dogfight at home! Using your heat-seeking missiles and laser anti-aircraft fire, can you be top gun against supersonic swarm?

Experience brain-numbing G-forces; bones rattling with the body-jarring pitch and yaw... scan with your radar, lock on your target and **FIRE!**

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LAST NINJA 2



Once beaten, but not destroyed, the evil Shogun Kunitoki used all his mystic powers to transport himself through time and establish a new empire of tyranny in modern day Manhattan. In fear of Kunitoki's growing powers, the arcane gods used all their wisdom to bring you, the Last Ninja, across the abyss of time and confront your arch-enemy once more. You arrive in this frightening and awesome modern world bringing nothing with you save your intelligence, skill and cunning and a burning desire for vengeance. Will this be the final battle? Can you vanquish Kunitoki once and for all?

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DOUBLE DRAGON



Skillful programming has taken the superb graphics and addictive game play of the monster Arcade hit and faithfully reproduced it in home computer versions.

Join in deadly combat with the savage street gang of the infamous Shadow Boss. Use whatever weapons come to hand as you pursue the gang through the slums, factories, and wooded outskirts of the city to reach the Black Warrior hideout, for the final confrontation with the Shadow Boss himself!

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GALAXY FORCE 2

BY ACTIVISION

In this conversion of the big Sega arcade game, the player has the job of flying five missions over four different alien planets and through one level of enemy infested space, with the sole objective of destroying the controlling computer nerve centre on each one.

Starting with 1200 units of fuel which count down throughout the mission, extra energy is given at strategic points on during each level, as well as from your mother ship which waits for you at the end of each level. The battle is depicted in second-person perspective 3D, each level becoming more difficult than the last.

Galaxy Force II in the arcades is a fun, challenging blast through space, with impressive graphics and sound effects. And while the presentation of the original has transferred surprisingly well to the ST, the home computer version is too simple to warrant

▼ *Whee! What a lovely day...*



▲ *Ha! That'll teach 'im!*

long-term play. Although the space section is a bit on the naff side, with no real feeling of movement due to the lack of a rolling starscape, once you hit the caverns your monitor screen comes alive with some of the most effective 3D seen in an ST shoot 'em up. Sprites are detailed and move around the screen well enough, and sound, although produced by the ST's own squawk-box sound chip, lends atmosphere to the game.



▲ *Woo! These bouncy robots are a right laff!*

However, it took us about an hour to complete the game - the trick to completion is simply to blast loads of bad-dies in order to rack up a huge energy level, after which you can't fail to progress to the later stages. And once you've completed it, the game soon loses its appeal.

PAUL RAND

UPDATE

Expect Amiga, Spectrum, Amstrad and C64 versions very soon indeed at the usual prices - take a look before buying them.



| ST | £19.99 |
|-------------|--------|
| GRAPHICS | 83% |
| SOUND | 71% |
| VALUE | 48% |
| PLAYABILITY | 58% |

Although the graphics and 3D routines are excellent, the gameplay severely lacks challenge and it's very easy to go all the way through the game in one sitting.

| | |
|---------|-----|
| OVERALL | 55% |
|---------|-----|

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INFOGRAVES





CABAL

BY OCEAN/SPECIAL FX

Ever felt the need for a spot of psychotic, no-holds-barred death and destruction on a grand scale? Well Ocean's conversion of the fab Cabal coin-op has all that and more.

The scenario, if that's what you can call it, entails one or two crack commandos sneaking behind enemy lines with the objective of doing as much damage as is humanly possible. The enemy stronghold is made up of five war zones, each containing four areas. Packing a powerful sub-machine gun and nine

anti-personnel grenades, the heroes simply have to destroy a set number of a targets on each screen before moving onto the next.

There are loads of things to blast - foot patrols, tanks, military personnel carriers and helicopter gunships, each armed with devastating artillery which includes gatling guns, grenades and bombs. When some enemy targets are destroyed, bonus items such as supplies of grenades and mega-machine guns are left behind and can be picked up by the player

and added to his armoury.

After every four screens you confront a huge ammuni-

**C+VG
HIT!**

UPDATE

Fret not, Amstrad, ST and Amiga owners, for your versions of Cabal should be in the shops now. Amstrad blood 'n' guts merchants can look forward to a game not dissimilar to the Spectrum game but with better colour, while the 16 bit conversions should faithfully resemble the coin-op in both graphics and gameplay.

tion-spewing military vehicle which requires many direct hits before it explodes, clearing the path to the next zone.

Finding that the simultaneous two-player option of the arcade game has been dropped is a disappointment, but it's thankfully made up for by stonking gameplay which requires great hand-to-eye reflexes to get rid of the bad-dies while, at the same time, avoiding the frightening return fire being sent in your direction - the action is amazingly frantic!

Cabal is an addictive blast which is best likened to Operation Wolf but without the scrolling. Fans of the coin-op will be well chuffed with this conversion, as will arcade addicts who crave for a bit of meat in their games.

PAUL RAND

| C64 | £9.99 |
|-------------|-------|
| GRAPHICS | 79% |
| SOUND | 74% |
| VALUE | 84% |
| PLAYABILITY | 85% |

A fab conversion of a playable, if socially unacceptable, arcade machine. Even with the lack of the original's simultaneous two-player action, Cabal is packed with gameplay which should more than satisfy the Rambo-esque blood lust within you.

OVERALL 85%

SPEC £8.99

Although C64 Cabal relies more on its frenetic gameplay than fancy graphics, lousy choice of colour and "invisible bullet syndrome" make for a poor Spectrum conversion. Recommended to arcade addicts with 20/20 vision only.

OVERALL 62%



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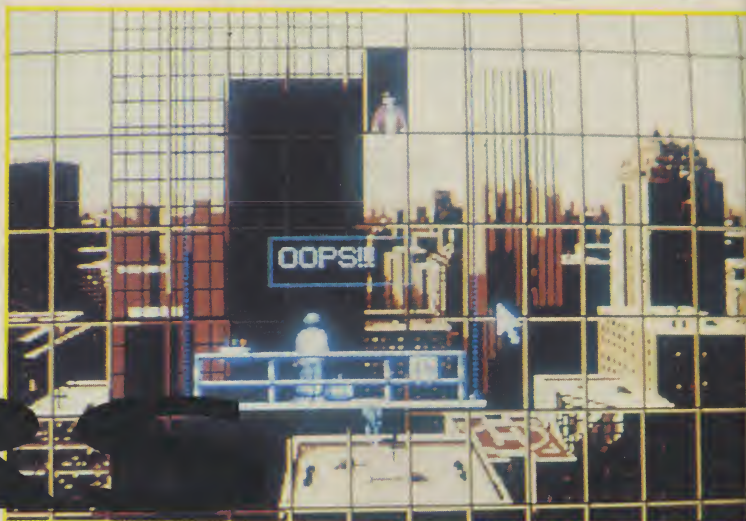
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FUTURE WARS



BY DELPHINE

Cleaning windows isn't the ideal qualification for the job of saving mankind. True, there's the occasional danger of being thirty floors up in high winds, but the most hassle you usually get is from your boss.

Not any more. It's the future, and an alien race called the Crughons is slowly wiping out all the earth colonies. The final part of their plan involves travelling back in time and corrupting earth's history - they want to rub out every last trace of humanity. This is the plot you stumble on. Innocently discovering a Chronoporter (for time travel), you're whisked off to the Middle Ages before you can drop your plastic bag. Zap.

The action is entirely mouse controlled, with six basic operations accessed from a menu. Once you de-

▼ "When I'm cleanin' winders! He-he! Turned out nice again!"



▲ Cor! A magic flag!

cipher the odder combinations ("operate tree" to shake it), it's a reasonably flexible way of exploring the environment.

Saving the world is where most of the fun lies. Exploring time zones and solving puzzles in the style of a Lucas-

film adventure game is challenging but enjoyable. Even so, the new Cinematique system has a few teething troubles. For a start, too often you want to perform an action, only to be told "come a little closer". Instead of the game doing the hard work - as it does in Indy or Maniac Mansion, for example - you've got to work your way round its little faults, and this can become very annoying.

Other minor niggles include the scarcity of adequate commands and the difficulty level: you have to save the game on every other screen because there are so many occasions on which you can fry, drown or get gobbled up for just one wrong move. The problems aren't too tough, but sorting them out using the game's system is.

Apart from these little faults, Future Wars is an ex-

▲ Uh oh!

cellent thinker's game. There are a lot of ingenious puzzles, plenty of depth, and a great scenario. The graphics are superb, with some detailed animation and cut-scenes, and the excellent sound effects create exactly the right atmosphere - whether it's the crunch of footsteps on a forest floor or the electric buzz of a transporter. Worth checking out.

GORDON HOUGHTON

AMIGA £24.99

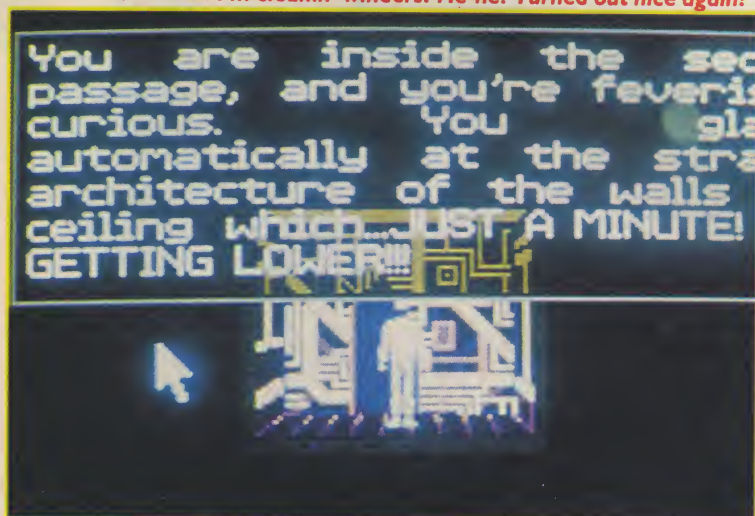
| | |
|-------------|-----|
| GRAPHICS | 90% |
| SOUND | 85% |
| VALUE | 77% |
| PLAYABILITY | 78% |

Brilliant graphics and sound effects are let down by niggling faults in the Cinematique system. Even so, if you like mind-taxing puzzles or you've enjoyed the Lucasfilm adventures, take a look.

OVERALL 79%

UPDATE

Both ST and PC versions will be available soon, and there should be no major differences - apart from less impressive sound effects and music.



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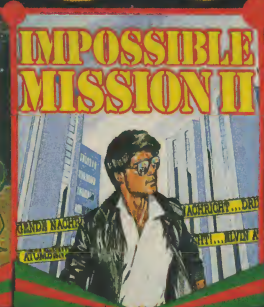
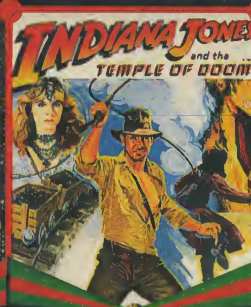
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COMING SOON!

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BUSHIDO

BY FIREBIRD



▲ Go on - show them your pointy stick.



flick screen rooms which scroll (slightly) depending on the direction you go in. This allows a much more detailed character to be used, and gives the impression of having a larger play area. Which ever agent you pick, he's very quick to move through the 3D environment.

The action is standard arcade adventure fare: kill people and search rooms for items which make progress a lot easier. There are also plenty of potions and special items such as wands, chests, and hidden exits to find, and these make the game good where it could have been mediocre. Combat is the only disappointment: it isn't really complex enough, even though there are a wide number of weapons with different hit points and control difficulties.

The music is very Zenji-esque in places, and even though it's not the most amazing tune ever, it manages to capture the right atmosphere without being irritating. Much the same could be said for Bushido as a whole: it's fast and playable - not as good as The Last Ninja 2, but still well worth looking at.

GORDON HOUGHTON

Rife was velly hard in early Feudal Japan. Not only did they have freezing winters and a strangling class system, but they also had a severe dose of "Bushido". Bushido was the code followed by all warriors; basically, it meant if you lost a battle, you had to remove your innards with a sharp implement or retire to a monastery, where lots of people would laugh at you until you died.

Luckily, it's the 20th Century, and you're only playing a computer game based on the real thing. It's set in Shimoso Province, head-butting ground for the Genji and Taira, two opposing clans. As one of the head honchos in the Gaira house, your mission is to send a lone fighter to infiltrate the Taira fortress and kick some enemy ass.

There are eight agents to choose from, from a Buddhist Monk to a Mountain Warrior, all of whom have some balance between guile and aggression. They can be trained to master their own best skill and get handy at others. They also carry a magical belt, so that should they be mortally wounded, they're transported back to base to recuperate.

The fortress is split up into

UPDATE

Other versions will eventually be available, but not even Microprose know when, where and how much.

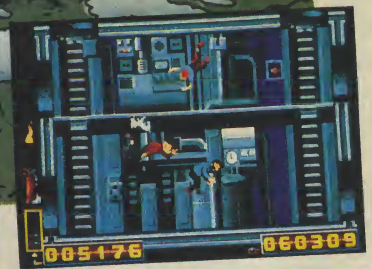
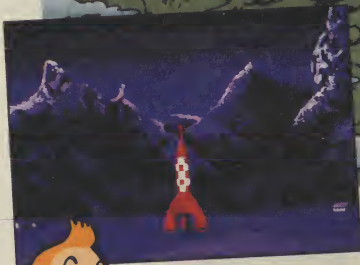
C64 £9.99

GRAPHICS 78%
SOUND 80%
VALUE 74%
PLAYABILITY 75%

A good oriental arcade adventure, just lacking the extra challenge that would put it in the same league as The Last Ninja 2.

OVERALL 78%

TINTIN ON THE MOON



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Will you succeed in piloting the red and white rocket through space and achieve a flawless landing? Will you capture Colonel Boris, the traitor, who wants to make the expedition fail? Will you be able to find the extinguishers to put out the fires, even while floating in zero-gravity (which isn't everybody's idea of fun)? Will you succeed in finding and disarming the bombs and freeing your companions in order to get out of the rocket to make the first step on the Moon? You will discover all this by playing "TINTIN ON THE MOON", the first computer game based on the comic books by Hergé...

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INFOGRAAMES



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COMMANDO

BY ELITE

About four years ago, Commando burst into the arcades. It's a vertically scrolling shoot 'em up in which the player guides Super Joe Crack, mega commando, on a mission to defeat an entire enemy army single handedly. The coin-op was very popular, and Elite snapped up the licence and released computer conversions, which made number one in December 1985.

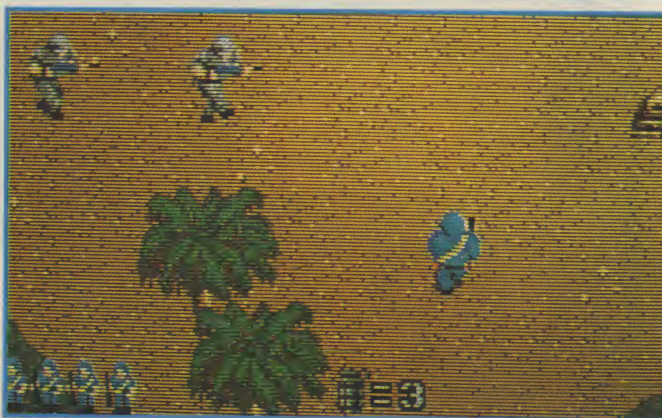
Now, after all these years, Elite have got the licence out of the cupboard, blown off the dust and released 16 bit conversions...

The game is very straightforward to play. All you've got to do is guide Joe up the screen and blast everything that moves with your trusty machine gun. Joe's also got a limited number of grenades which he can lob at groups of soldiers, enemy vehicles and gun emplacements to take them out in one fell swoop.

There are eight different levels in all, each one ending with a fortress where Joe is confronted by hordes of oncoming soldiers - blow them all away and he can continue onto the next screen.

As Joe progresses through the landscape the mission gets more and more suicidal, with soldiers hidden in foxholes, an enemy airfield packed with bazooka-toting soldiers and dozens of gun emplacements waiting to send the hero home in a wooden box.

▼ Izzat Steve McQueen on that bike?



The Amiga conversion of Commando is almost a pixel-for-pixel copy of the coin-op - in fact the only difference is the music, which sounds very muffled, not at all like the stirring arcade soundtrack.

However, the big problem is that the Commando style of game looks very basic when compared with newer software. The gameplay, although fun for a while, is ultimately limited, and it won't

take long before you go all the way through the game.

Those who adored the coin-op will obviously love this, but personally I think it's a bit pricey. After all, would you go and stick twenty quid into the arcade machine these days?

JULIAN RIGNALL

UPDATE

A very similar ST version is out now, and apart from slightly inferior music is the same as the Amiga game. Commando on 8 bit is available on budget - the C64 version is fairly good, but both the Spectrum and Amstrad versions are brilliant.

AMIGA £19.99

GRAPHICS 67%
SOUND 71%
VALUE 67%
PLAYABILITY 73%

A spot-on conversion of the ageing arcade machine which is addictive in the short-term, but doesn't offer much in the way of lasting appeal.

OVERALL 69%



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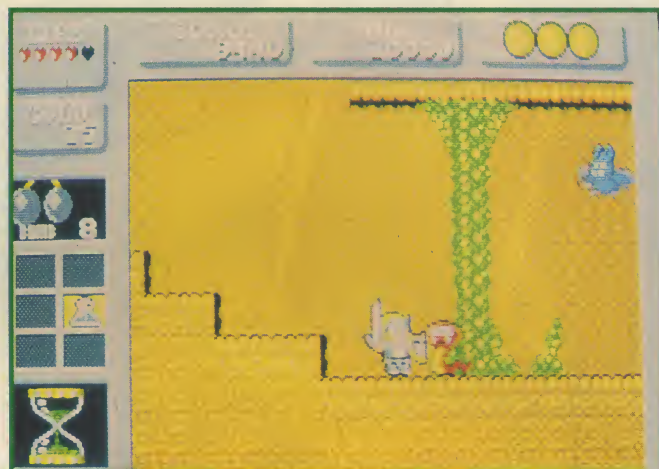
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▲ "Oi! Let's in Mr Armourer!"



▲ Snakes! No fang you very much!

SUPER WONDERBOY

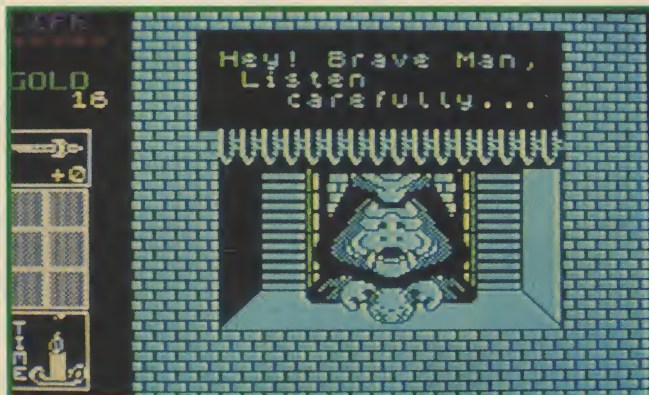
BY ACTIVISION

▼ This fellow's got some useful advice.

He may be up to his third adventure on the Sega Master System, but here on the ST everyone's fave sprog Tom-Tom the Wonderboy has only just recovered from his forest-foraging exploits of two years ago.

While away on his travels, Tom-Tom's homeland has been invaded by a scourge of deadly small, woodland creatures. No-one knew the reason behind this rebellion of the animal kingdom; that is, no-one knew until the Wonderboy's return. It turns out that the animals' master, Meka the dragon, is taken aback at the indiscriminate slaughter of his furry chums at the hands of the kid with the skateboard and crash helmet, and has sent a plague of foul fauna to wipe out the inhabitants of Wonderland. And wipe them out he will, unless you take control of Tom-Tom, who has swapped his childish gear for a sword and a heart of stone, and go off in search of Meka to bring peace and justice to what is now a dangerous place to live.

Standing between Wonderboy and the liberation of his homeland is level upon level of arcade adventuring



action, a change to the hack and slay of the original game. You begin in a small town, and must fight your way through villages, grasslands and underground caverns before you stumble upon Meka and your goal. Many of the baddies you encounter have some dosh on their person, which can be collected once the creature has been biffed over the head. This money can be used in any of the multitude of shops found along the way, which sell items such as beer to increase your energy, limited but powerful weaponry (including bombs, fireballs and lightning bolts) and armour.

Waltzing into some of the buildings brings you face to face with one of Meka's

guardians, all heavily armoured and capable of ending your journey and life very quickly. These monsters must be killed, as they possess the keys to each of the end-of-level exits.

Super Wonder Boy is a fun piece of software with

heavy console influences (hardly surprising - it's already been out on the Sega System). It's not the strongest license this year by any means, but that shouldn't stop fans snapping it up.

PAUL RAND

UPDATE

Amiga SWB will be slightly smoother and will sound better than the ST version, while C64 and Amstrad conversions will be more colourful than the Spectrum version, and just as playable.

SPEC £9.99

Although the graphics are monochrome, playing is as fun on the Spectrum as it is on the ST. Worth the pennies if you like this sort of game.

OVERALL 84%

ST £19.99

GRAPHICS 85%
SOUND 81%
VALUE 83%
PLAYABILITY 86%

Wonderboy comes of age, battling beasts across loads of levels in an addictive console-esque arcade adventure.

OVERALL 84%

ORIENTAL GAMES



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by Bondwell

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AMIGA TOP 20

| | | | | |
|----|------|--------------------|-------------|-----|
| 1 | (-) | Batman | Ocean | 96% |
| 2 | (1) | Xenon II | Imageworks | 96% |
| 3 | (-) | Strider | US Gold | 93% |
| 4 | (-) | Continental Circus | Virgin | 79% |
| 5 | (12) | Shadow o/t Beast | Psygnosis | 78% |
| 6 | (-) | Powerdrift | Activision | 83% |
| 7 | (8) | Kick Off | Anco | 84% |
| 8 | (-) | Altered Beast | Activision | 69% |
| 9 | (3) | F16 Combat Pilot | DI | 76% |
| 10 | (11) | Falcon | Mirrorsoft | 93% |
| 11 | (-) | Beach Volley | Ocean | 80% |
| 12 | (-) | Hillsfar | US Gold | 70% |
| 13 | (-) | Space Quest 3 | Activision | 78% |
| 14 | (-) | APB | Domark | 79% |
| 15 | (-) | Gunship | Microprose | 87% |
| 16 | (18) | Lombard RAC Rally | Mandarin | 83% |
| 17 | (-) | Shufflepuck Cafe | Domark | 80% |
| 18 | (7) | Robocop | Ocean | 90% |
| 19 | (-) | Speedbt Assassin | Mastertron | 33% |
| 20 | (-) | Nigel Mansell's GP | Alternative | 79% |

What a surprise - Batman swings straight to the top of the chart and is joined by US Gold's Strider conversion. A couple of new adventure titles make the top 20, but surprisingly the superb Indiana Jones adventure hasn't made it yet. Maybe next month?

PG'S TIPS

INDY ADVENTURE GAME: All the thrills of the film! So good, even C+VG's die-hard blasters are hooked!

STUNT CAR RACER: Superb racing simulator just hitting the shelves.

GHOULS 'N' GHOSTS: Triff an' brill arcade conversion from US Gold. A Christmas biggie for sure.

OUTSIDE BET

IT CAME FROM THE DESERT: Brilliant Cinemaware stuff - but will it be out in time for next month's chart?

The incredibly playable Stunt Car vrrmmms over the line in first place this month, and about time too we say! Xenon II suffers the ignominy of being beaten into fourth place by Continental Circus.

PG'S TIPS

INTERPHASE: Fab 3D cyberpunk strategy/blasting action. Got to be a hit.

HARD DRIVIN': Completely brilliant conversion of Atari's stunt driving simulator.

DAMOCLES: The long-awaited 3D mega-quest should be out by the time you read this.

OUTSIDE BET

TOWER OF BABEL: Intriguing 3D puzzle game from Microprose, which should attract a fair bit of interest.

ATARI ST TOP 20

| | | | | |
|----|------|--------------------|-------------|-----|
| 1 | (-) | Stunt Car Racer | Microprose | 94% |
| 2 | (-) | Strider | US Gold | 93% |
| 3 | (-) | Continental Circus | Virgin | 79% |
| 4 | (1) | Xenon II | Imageworks | 94% |
| 5 | (-) | Paperboy | Elite | 69% |
| 6 | (9) | Kick Off | Anco | 84% |
| 7 | (11) | TV Sports Football | Mirrorsoft | 87% |
| 8 | (-) | Centrefold Squares | CDS | 66% |
| 9 | (2) | Promised Lands | EA | 85% |
| 10 | (-) | Power Drift | Activision | 81% |
| 11 | (-) | Ferrari Formula 1 | EA | 69% |
| 12 | (6) | Indiana Jones | US Gold | 81% |
| 13 | (-) | Altered Beast | Activision | 69% |
| 14 | (-) | Mansell's G P | Alternative | 75% |
| 15 | (12) | Robocop | Ocean | 90% |
| 16 | (-) | Computer People | Activision | 81% |
| 17 | (3) | Bloodwych | Imageworks | 81% |
| 18 | (-) | Star Wars Trilogy | Domark | 81% |
| 19 | (-) | Shinobi | Virgin | 80% |
| 20 | (8) | Falcon | Mirrorsoft | 93% |

HOW THE CHARTS ARE CREATED

Every month Gallup contacts, on behalf of C+VG, retailers up and down the country to find out what you've been buying. The chart uses information from retailers of every size, from small local stores to big high street chain stores. We think it's a fairer representation of the true state of sales than any other chart. We Hope you agree.



▲ Altered Beast roars in at number nine.



▲ The super swordsman "strides" into fifth position.



▲ Cabal's arcade combat action wins it eighteenth place.



▲ Continental Circuit races into thirteenth place.

ALL FORMATS

| | | GAME | COMPANY |
|----|------|-----------------|------------|
| 1 | (-) | PAPERBOY | ENCORE |
| 2 | (4) | BATMAN-MOVIE | OCEAN |
| 3 | (-) | MANSELL'S GP | MARTECH |
| 4 | (1) | CRAZY CARS | HIT SQUAD |
| 5 | (-) | STRIDER | US GOLD |
| 6 | (-) | BARBARIAN | KIXX |
| 7 | (3) | ROBOCOP | OCEAN |
| 8 | (-) | SHORT CIRCUIT | HIT SQUAD |
| 9 | (-) | ALTERED BEAST | ACTVISION |
| 10 | (-) | GHOSTS /GOBLINS | ENCORE |
| 11 | (-) | POWER DRIFT | ACTIVISION |
| 12 | (19) | TOP GUN | HIT SQUAD |
| 13 | (-) | CONT CIRCUS | VIRGIN |
| 14 | (-) | WIZBALL | HIT SQUAD |
| 15 | (11) | MiG 29 | CODE MAST |
| 16 | (-) | COBRA | HIT SQUAD |
| 17 | (2) | INDIANA JONES | US GOLD |
| 18 | (-) | CABAL | OCEAN |
| 19 | (-) | BATMAN 3D | HIT SQUAD |
| 20 | (-) | RAMPAGE | HIT SQUAD |

At last Crazy Cars gets shunted off the top spot - by an only slightly more deserving title. Batman makes an instant impact, as

ATS TOP 20

| ANY | SPEC | AMS | C64 | ST | AM |
|---------|------|-----|-----|----|----|
| RE | ● | ● | ● | - | - |
| N | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| TECH | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| UAD | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| LD | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| | ● | ● | ● | - | - |
| I | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| UAD | ● | ● | ● | - | - |
| SION | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| RE | ● | ● | ● | - | - |
| SION | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| UAD | ● | ● | ● | - | - |
| | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| UAD | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| MASTERS | ● | ● | ● | - | - |
| UAD | ● | ● | ● | - | - |
| LD | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| N | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| UAD | ● | ● | ● | - | - |
| UAD | ● | ● | ● | ● | - |

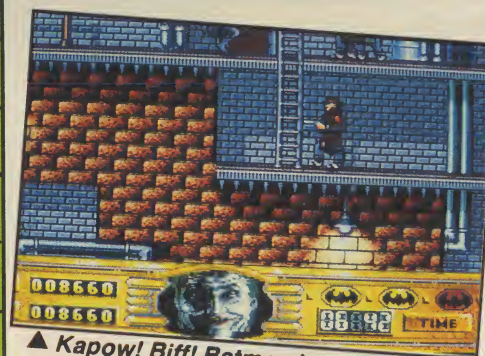
everyone expected and in fact the only real surprise is that after a month at the number nine position *Xenon II* has dropped out of the chart to number 22!



▲ Resilient or what? Cruddy Crazy Cars - still up there.



▲ Powerdrift zooms into the chart in high gear.



▲ Kapow! Biff! Batman knocks the opposition senseless!



▲ Another rerelease Rampages around the chart's bottom.

C64 TOP 20

| | | | | |
|----|------|--------------------|-------------|-----|
| 1 | (-) | Paperboy | Encore | 52% |
| 2 | (3) | Batman | Ocean | 92% |
| 3 | (1) | Crazy Cars | Hit Squad | 55% |
| 4 | (-) | Ghosts 'n' Goblins | Encore | 90% |
| 5 | (-) | Cabal | Ocean | 82% |
| 6 | (-) | Barbarian | Kixx | 80% |
| 7 | (-) | Wizball | Hit Squad | 92% |
| 8 | (-) | Power Drift | Activision | 59% |
| 9 | (-) | Cobra | Hit Squad | 38% |
| 10 | (17) | Top Gun | Hit Squad | 29% |
| 11 | (-) | Strider | US Gold | 85% |
| 12 | (5) | Robocop | Ocean | 84% |
| 13 | (2) | Pitstop II | Kixx | 85% |
| 14 | (-) | Rally Cross | Code Mstrs | 78% |
| 15 | (-) | Postman Pat | Alternative | 70% |
| 16 | (-) | Tusker | System 3 | 85% |
| 17 | (4) | Indiana Jones | US Gold | 80% |
| 18 | (-) | Shinobi | Virgin | 80% |
| 19 | (-) | Altered Beast | Activision | 73% |
| 20 | (-) | Mansell's GP | Alternative | 71% |

The rerelease season is officially open, which means it's all change in the C64 chart this month. The Christmas licenses also make an impact, but cheezy old Paperboy rides over them all to the top.

PG'S TIPS

STUNT CAR RACER: Just as good on the 64 as it is on the 16 bits - a major contribution to road unsafety.

MYTH: Great graphics make this arcade adventure something really special.

THALAMUS - THE HITS: Compilations are gonna be big over Christmas, and this is the best one for the '64. Six stunning games for only 12.99

OUTSIDE BET

THE UNTOUCHABLES: Excellent seven-part interpretation of the movie - a bit late in the day, though.

Half the games in last month's chart have been replaced by budget and rerelease titles. Quite a surprise to see footy-simsters Cult taking three top ten positions after months of obscurity.

PG'S TIPS

DOUBLE DRAGON 2: OK translation of the cult arcade beat 'em up around - bound to sell on its coin-op reputation.

GHOULS 'N' GHOSTS: The cult arcade game comes to your humble ol' Speccy in fine style.

TURBO OUTRUN: Conversion of Sega's updated racer looks set to repeat the success of it's mega-smash predecessor in '87.

OUTSIDE BET

HARD DRIVIN': Great conversion of Atari's arcade stunt car sim. Not as high-profile as Outrun, but deserves to do well.

SPECTRUM TOP 20

| | | | | |
|----|------|-----------------------|-------------|-----|
| 1 | (-) | Paperboy | Encore | 83% |
| 2 | (1) | Batman | Ocean | 92% |
| 3 | (2) | Crazy Cars | Hit Squad | 60% |
| 4 | (-) | Mansell's GP | Alternative | 75% |
| 5 | (-) | Short Circuit | Hit Squad | 64% |
| 6 | (-) | Barbarian | Kixx | 82% |
| 7 | (10) | MiG 29 | Code Mstrs | 35% |
| 8 | (-) | GB Super League | Cult | 77% |
| 9 | (-) | Soccer 7 | Cult | 75% |
| 10 | (-) | Internat'nal Football | Cult | 73% |
| 11 | (4) | T I Dizzy | Code Mstrs | 75% |
| 12 | (-) | Top Gun | Hit Squad | 83% |
| 13 | (-) | Ghosts 'n' Goblins | Encore | 88% |
| 14 | (7) | Robocop | Ocean | 87% |
| 15 | (-) | Altered Beast | Activision | 73% |
| 16 | (9) | Scooby Doo | Encore | 75% |
| 17 | (6) | Enduro Racer | Hit Squad | 84% |
| 18 | (17) | Batman 3D | Hit Squad | 86% |
| 19 | (-) | Op Gunship | Code Mstrs | 74% |
| 20 | (-) | Rampage | Encore | 71% |

THE C+VG STAFF'S CURRENT GAME OBSESSIONS

JULIAN RIGNALL: GHOULS 'N' GHOSTS (MEGADRIVE), STUN RUNNER (ARCADES), INDY ADVENTURE (PC), DORAEMON, EARTHSHAKER (PIN TABLE)
PAUL GLANCEY: BALLOON FIGHT (NINTENDO), SUPER MARIO BROTHERS III (NINTENDO), DORAEMON (PC ENGINE), INTERPHASE (ST), CHAOS STRIKES BACK (ST)

PAUL RAND: SUPER MARIO BROTHERS III (NINTENDO), SIM CITY (AMIGA), SUPER MARIO BROTHERS III (AGAIN!), HYPERFORCE (ST)

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SPORTING TRIANGLES

BY CDS

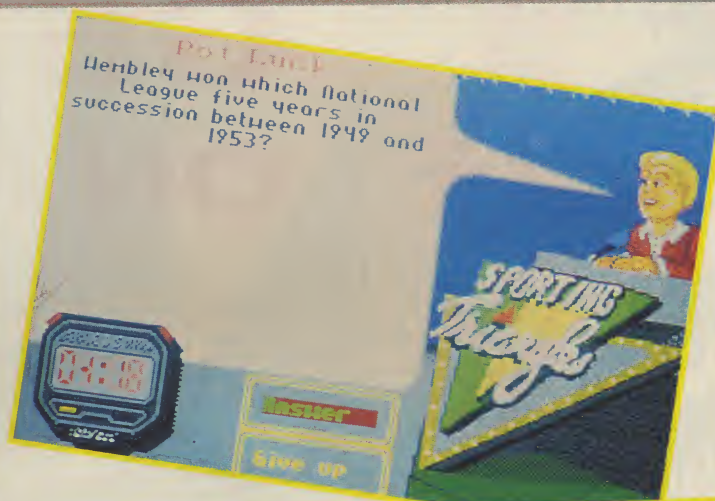
Christmas comes but once a year, and with it a horde of computer trivia games to keep the kids (and the parents, usually!) amused after the turkey has been scoffed, the presents have become boring and the BBC1 showing of *Only Fools And Horses* has finished.

Sporting Triangles is one such game. Based on the ITV quiz show hosted by smooth 'n' slimy Nick Owen, the idea is to correctly answer your way through seven rounds of frustrating sports trivia. Each of the three players (computer players are added if there are less than three players) must first choose a specialised subject from the twelve available, ranging from horse racing to ball-sports. Should computer players be taking part in the quiz, the player is free to select the machine's level of intelligence from one of either

Perfect, Good or Average. The time allocated to the answering of each question can also be preset here, and anything from between one second and unlimited time is allowed.

Sporting Triangles is fast paced and, even though the questions themselves are obviously intended for sport fans only, the answer selection system gives lots of scope to cheat (I did - I still lost though!). *Sporting Triangles* is a game which won't appeal to many people because of the subject matter, but if you're one of those types who watches every footy match, snooker tournament and athletics meeting on the telly, as well as some of the more obscure sports on Channel 4 late at night, oodles of pleasure can be gleaned from this accurate quiz show tie-in.

PAUL RAND



Computer throwing die for C64K



▲ Lucky old Craig rolls a six.

UPDATE

C64 and ST versions are also available, and both are as good as the other versions.

SPEC £9.99

As playable as the Amiga version, although loading time is a bit of a bugbear. Graphics have transferred well, pictorial clues being easily recognisable. A playable sports trivia game but only recommended to ardent sports freaks.

OVERALL 82%

AMIGA £24.99

GRAPHICS 81%
SOUND 84%
VALUE 86%
PLAYABILITY 85%

*Strictly for fans of the series and of sport generally. If you are one of these people, get your hands on *Sporting Triangles*, one of the most playable quiz games since *Trivial Pursuit*.*

OVERALL 83%

AMSTRAD £9.99

Practically a spitting image of the Spectrum conversion, boasting all of the good points of the other two.

OVERALL 82%



© IMAGE BANK, Anne MARTENS

SIM CITY



On seeing the crumbling estates, out-dated roads and rusty bridges of your city, how many times have you said "Put me in charge for a day and I'll make this wretched thing work!" Now, with Sim City, take the destiny of the world's greatest cities in hand. Or take charge of a new evolving and growing city. Become both mayor and city planner of a dynamic real-time simulation.

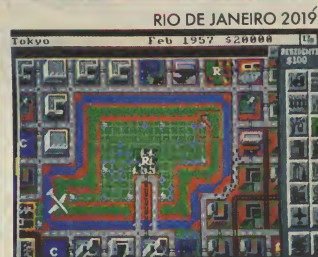
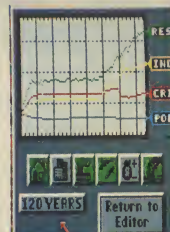
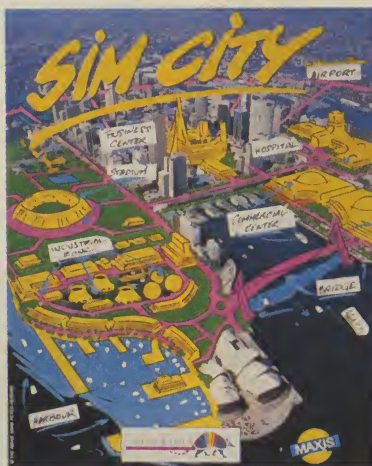


Build houses, streets, factories, airports, a stadium, or even nuclear power plants. Organise urban transport, hire police, firemen, bulldoze entire neighbourhoods. Raise and collect taxes, balance your budget, manipulate property values. Sim City is alive. It's loaded with animation and detailed sound effects. Build roads, cars appear. Lay tracks, trains go. Build an airport, planes fly. Neighbourhoods go upper-class. Areas deteriorate into slums. Small industries grow into huge factories. Everything is managed and animated in real

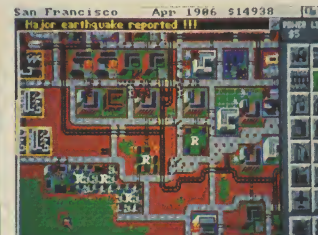


SIM CITY

What you should know about the game of the year.



time. Every decision instantly influences the life of your town. In a special mode, you can even cause tornadoes, floods, fires and other disasters at your whim. Save San Francisco from the great earthquake of 1906. Or save Tokyo of pollution and from his famous B-movie monster. Sim City is an all-absorbing unique game which contains 8 pre-defined scenarios : e.g San Francisco, Tokyo, Rio de Janeiro... With it's exceptional depth of play, it's still simple to play with icons and graphics, without text commands.



Design and build the city of your dreams. Sim City gives you the keys. The rest is up to you.

INFOWORLD Volume II Issue 20 : "People playing Sim City are completely plugged into the world they create, disappearing for hours."
NEW YORK TIMES : "The model is very sophisticated, yet understandable. And just as important, it's fun, too."



INFOGRAAMES



REVIEW

► ST AMIGA PC

Three hundred years have passed since the Cataclysm when the gods wreaked havoc across the land of Krynn, their purpose to rid the land of all evil. They failed, and those mortals who lost everything in the onslaught turned to Takhisis, Queen of Darkness, for protection and revenge.

Reuniting the dragons which have laid dormant for centuries, the Queen and her army of Draconians sought to overthrow Krynn and the gods. With the news that the long-lost Disks of Mishakal have been found, Takhisis'



▲ "Ha! Found you shorty! Now you're it!"

D DRAGONS OF FLAME

only hope is to keep control of Wyrmslayer, the symbol of the gods, and diminish even more the belief in the Immortals.

Standing between the Queen and total dominance of Krynn are the Companions of The Lance, a band of adventurers whose numbers include Goldmoon, first of a new breed of true clerics and keeper of the Disks Of Mishakal. Freed from captivity by the forest elves, they have been assigned the task of breaching the defences of Takhisis' fortress, Pax Tharkas, freeing the princess Laurana in whose possession lies Wyrmslayer, and liberating the slaves entrapped in the castle. Doing so means revival of the gods and defeat of the Queen and her minions. You control the Companions in a sprawling computer RPG set across the land of Krynn, made up of mountains, forests, rolling grassland and, of course,

BY US GOLD/SSI

Pax Tharkas.

At the beginning of the adventure, the castle lies to the south, across a seemingly impassable mountainous area. Collecting the many helpful items along the way, you must find the characters able to assist you in "storming the battlements". As well as the many NPC's (Non-Player Characters), you encounter patrolling Draconian guards. When this occurs, the main Wilderness map screen switches to a horizontally-scrolling action view, in which all interaction, be it picking up objects, talking to characters or fighting monsters, takes place. At first you control the eight Companions of The Lance, each with their own strengths and weaknesses, with the option of adding to your band along the way. Some of your party are capable of producing magic using their energy-draining

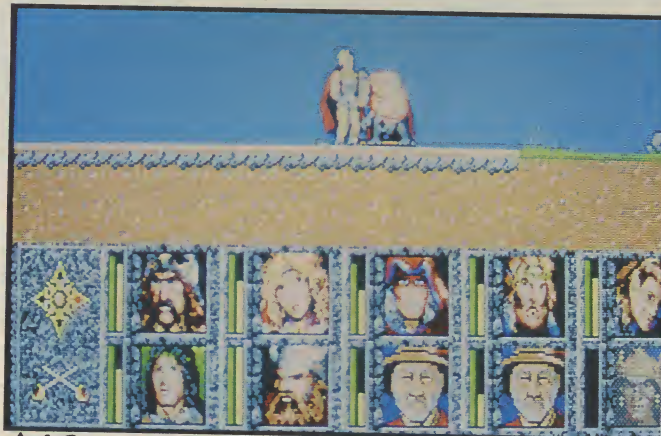


but very powerful ancient artifacts, the array of available spells including fireballs, healing and even resurrection, should any of your characters die during combat. Once inside Pax Tharkas, the battle is on to find Laurana and Wyrmslayer and free the slaves. Caution is recommended however, as the fortress is a dangerous place with warriors, traps and two enormous red dragons waiting to meet you, greet you and eat you.

Although I have been generally impressed by the standard of all the Advanced Dungeons and Dragons games, *Dragons Of Flame* must rank as the best of the series - an action adventure in every sense of the phrase. The amount of powers which your characters possess is stunning, with a huge range of spells at the disposal of your magic-user and cleric, as well as a host of more powerful weapons, armour and magic items to help the more conventional fighters. The Wilderness map screen works well, allowing swift access through the land of Krynn, and the interaction screen is a marvellous idea, as well as being inhabited by



▲ "Chew on that, scaley-bottom!"



▲ A Gryphon. Think it'll be friends?

some charming graphics. Your characters, and the friends (or foes) which they meet are all more than adequately detailed and animated, and it's also possible to use this graphically more impressive view as opposed to the flat, though still excellent map (although this is not rec-

ommended as it is very easy to get lost!).

The amount of thought put into the design of *Dragons Of Flame* is apparent the moment you begin your quest; and it is a large, mentally taxing adventure, so regular use of the thoughtfully-included save option is advisable.

Ultra hard-line shoot 'em up fans may as well forget *Dragons Of Flame* and go and play the latest arcade blaster, but for everyone else who could do with a bit of a point to their gaming, as well as a first class look at how the computer RPG world is faring, *Dragons Of Flame* is a game which you should seriously consider buying.

PAUL RAND

UPDATE

Sadly, due to memory restrictions, no C64, Spectrum or Amstrad conversions are planned.

REVIEW

C+VG HIT!

AMIGA £24.99

GRAPHICS 77%

SOUND 67%

VALUE 88%

PLAYABILITY 86%

*The Dragonlance saga continues in digital form with a top-class action/RPG, the emphasis being placed firmly on the action side of things. *Dragons Of Flame* is an extremely fine piece which offers many months of rewarding and highly enjoyable entertainment.*

OVERALL 85%

PC £24.99

Again, only slight colour changes and the obvious drop in sound quality distinguish the PC game from the other 16 bit versions. Smash-ing RPG fun 'n' frolics.

OVERALL 85%

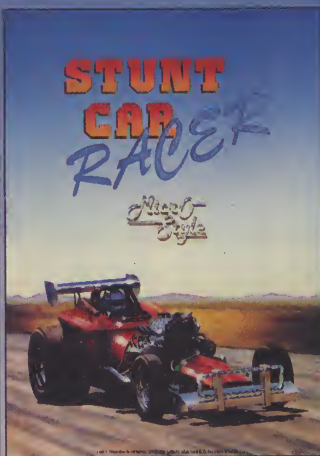
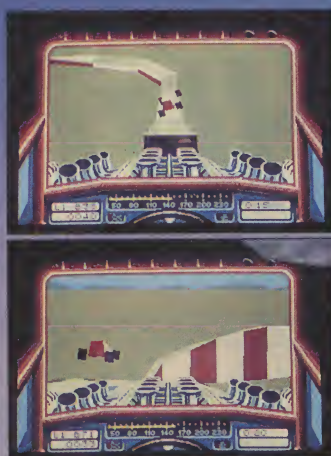
ST £24.99

The only differences between this and the Amiga version are cosmetic, and even those are negligible. A computer RPG highly deserving of attention.

OVERALL 85%

"THE ULTIMATE DRIVING EXPERIENCE"

C & VG



STUNT CAR RACER

"The tracks are superbly designed starting with a fairly straightforward but lumpy oval and progressing to such delights complete with massive (& I mean MASSIVE) jump & roller coaster track which has enough hills to turn the stomach of the hardest drivers." – C & VG

"Quite simply Stunt Car is the best racing game yet seen on a home computer – check it out." – C & VG

"Stunt Car is utterly brilliant and offers adrenaline pumping gut wrenching high speed action that will keep you engrossed for months – C & VG

"An action packed game that had us on the edge of our seats." – TGM

RVF

The motor bike simulator of the Honda 750 RVF. Race on Clubman and world famous tracks.

"A near perfect blend of simulation & action" – ACE

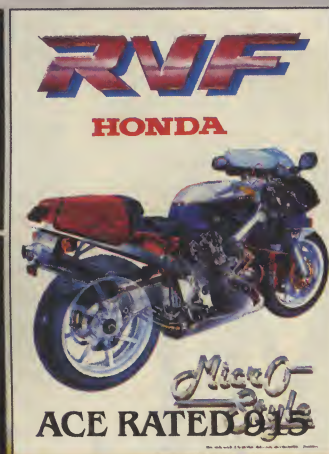
"Amazing graphics" – CU

"If this, as MicroProse maintain is the shape of the Amiga games to come then everybody should buy an Amiga now" – CU



93% TGM

93% C & V



C+VG
HIT!



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|-----------------------|--------------------|--------|
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| Black Lamp | Firebird | £19.95 |
| Buggy Boy | Elite | £19.95 |
| Chopper X | Mastertronic | £9.99 |
| Ikari Warriors | Elite | £14.95 |
| Marble Madness | Electronic Arts | £24.95 |
| Quadrallen | Logotron | £19.95 |
| Ranarama | Hewson Consultants | £19.95 |
| Return To Genesis | Firebird | £19.95 |
| Roadwars | Melbourne House | £19.95 |
| Starquake | Mandarin | £19.95 |
| Test Drive | Electronic Arts | £24.95 |
| Thrust | Firebird | £9.95 |
| Thundercats | Elite | £19.95 |
| Wizball | Ocean | £19.95 |
| Xenon | Melbourne House | £19.95 |
| Zynaps | Hewson Consultants | £19.99 |

SPORTS SIMULATIONS

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------|--------|
| Eddie Edwards Super Ski | Elite | £19.95 |
| Seconds Out | Tynesoft | £19.95 |
| Summer Olympiad '88 | Tynesoft | £19.95 |

PRODUCTIVITY SOFTWARE

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------|--------|
| Organiser | Triangle Publishing | £49.95 |
|-----------|---------------------|--------|

JOYSTICK

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|---------------------|------------|-------|
| Atari CX40 Joystick | Atari Corp | £4.99 |
|---------------------|------------|-------|

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ATARI ST COMPUTERS

The range of Atari ST computers offers something for everyone. From the games enthusiast who wants the challenge of the very best in arcade action, to the businessman who wants to make financial forecasts or faultless presentations. The ST offers high quality graphics, sound and speed for the gamer, whilst providing a fast, user friendly and affordable solution to business. The ST is now firmly established in the home environment and boasts a wealth of users in education, local government, television, and a variety of different businesses. Software for the range stretches to cover applications as diverse as ENTERTAINMENT, ACCOUNTS, ART, COMMUNICATIONS, COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN, DATABASES, DESKTOP PUBLISHING, EDUCATION, MUSIC, PROGRAMMING, SPREADSHEETS, WORD PROCESSING and more. For a full list of the software available, as well as details of the ST range, complete and return the coupon below.

All prices correct at the time of going to press. E&OE

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The MEGA ST computers are styled as a lightweight keyboard with a separate CPU, connected by a coiled telephone style cable. There are two versions of the MEGA ST, one with 2Mbytes of RAM and the other with 4Mbytes. Each version has a 1Mbyte double sided disk drive built-in to the CPU unit. The MEGA ST's do not come with modulator built-in and must therefore be used with a monitor. With every MEGA ST purchased, we will add the 'Professional Pack' software (worth £384.83) detailed above, plus the Silica ST Starter Kit (worth over £200) both FREE OF CHARGE. Return the coupon for further details.

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Desktop Publishing (DTP) is one of the fastest growing applications for personal computers. We are pleased to announce a powerful low cost package for the Atari ST called PageStream. PageStream costs only £149 (+VAT=£171.35) and, because it works with an Atari 1040ST and a Seikosha SP-180A printer, you can be up and running with a complete system for less than £1000. Some of the features of PageStream are listed to the right. If you would like further information on this program, complete and return the coupon below, ticking the 'DTP' box in the corner.

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Before you decide when to buy your new Atari ST computer, we suggest you consider very carefully WHERE you buy it. There are MANY companies who can offer you a computer, a few peripherals and the top ten selling titles. There are FEWER companies who can offer a wide range of products for your computer and expert advice and help when you need it. There is ONLY ONE company who can provide the largest range of Atari ST related products in the UK, a full time Atari ST specialist technical helpline and in-depth after sales support, including free newsletters and brochures delivered to your door for as long as you require after you purchase your computer. That one company is Silica Shop. We have been established in the home computer field for ten years with an annual turnover in excess of £8 million and can now claim to meet our customers requirements with an accuracy and understanding which is second to none. But don't just take our word for it. Complete and return the coupon below for our latest literature and begin to experience the Silica Shop specialist Atari service.

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PICTIONARY



▲ A three minute panda-pic is no picnic.

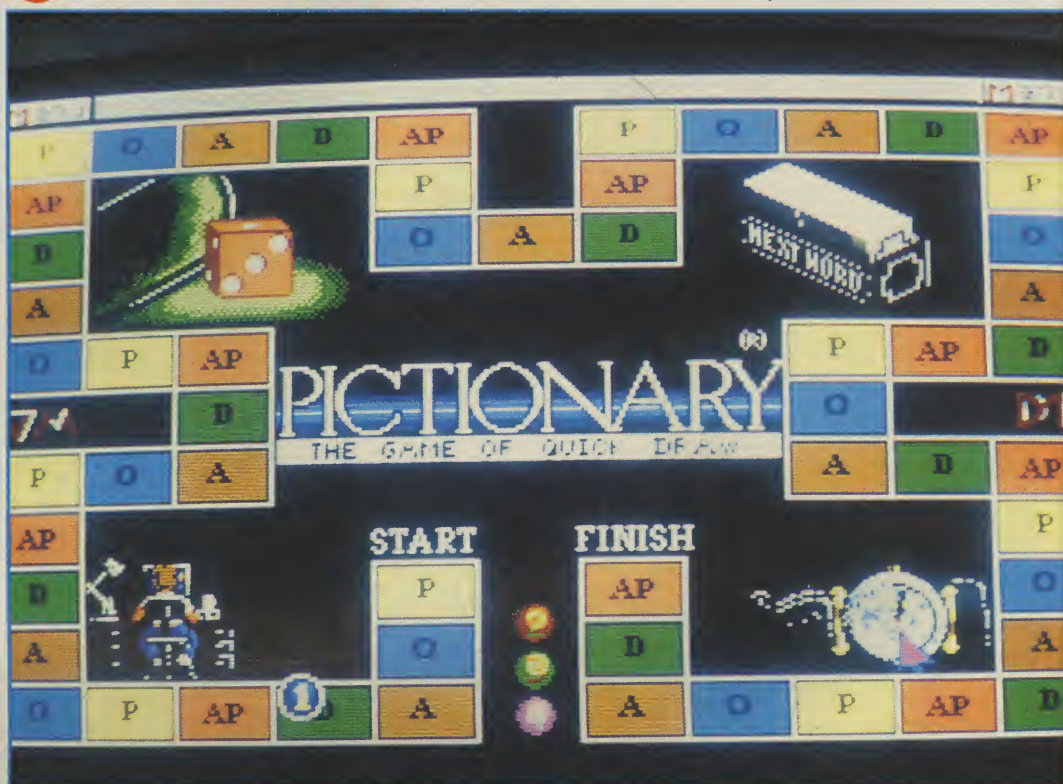
The original Pictionary is really just a souped-up version of a party-game people have played for years, with nothing more elaborate than a pencil and a piece of paper. Yesterday the board-game, today the computer game.

The basic idea is this: one member of a team of players (the picturist) is told to select a word from a word-card which they then have to draw on screen. If the rest of the team manages to guess what it is, they get to throw the dice and advance the team counter around the board. If they don't, you stay where you are, and serve you right for having no artistic skills. Between two and four teams can take part and whoever makes it to the finish first is the winner.

The drawing area works a bit like a mini graphics package with icons for drawing straight and curved lines, squares, circles and boxes, all arranged around the screen. If you want, you can even jazz up your basic drawing with colours, different patterns and broken lines. An extensive options menu lets you alter the time limit, re-name your teams and save piccies you're really proud of. Anyone worried about their pixel power can even practice drawing.

If after that you still can't draw to save your life, don't despair. An alternative game for up to four players lets you take turns guessing what masterpieces the computer has produced. If you're on your own, this is the only way to play a solo game.

Whether you'll want to is another thing. Most computerised board-games don't



match up to the playability of the original, and Pictionary, unfortunately, is no exception. For one thing, unless you're a real dab hand with a graphics package, drawing on screen is more of a bind than a boon: you tend to end up drawing freehand.

Worse than this though, is the ultimate boredom of playing a full game. It's just not enough fun to keep guessing what someone else has drawn or struggling to draw such abstract concepts as "parole" for more than a couple of games. It shouldn't be top of your Christmas pressie list this year, especially at the price.

GORDON HOUGHTON

UPDATE

Pictionary is available now on the major three 8 bit formats, for £14.99 cassette and £19.99 disk.

AMIGA £24.99

The same as the ST version in every respect, except the computer's slightly quicker to draw piccies and the music is more annoying. Buy the board game - it's much more fun.

OVERALL 38%

ST £24.99

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| GRAPHICS | 41% |
| SOUND | 15% |
| VALUE | 30% |
| PLAYABILITY | 39% |

Dire, monotonous sound effects and purely functional graphic presentation wouldn't matter if the game was addictive. It isn't, unless drawing pictures is your only aim in life.

OVERALL 38%

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BUDGET

FIST II MASTERTRONIC

The legend continues! This time around, our ancient Oriental chum finds himself taking on the might of the evil Warlord and his henchmen. In this four-way scrolling arcade adventure cum beat 'em up, you must journey through a mystical land, acquiring the skills necessary to finish the devilish deeds of your foe.

The original producers of this sequel to the game which started the karate bandwagon rolling in the guise of Way Of The Exploding Fist took the logical step forward and introduced a quest into the proceedings as well as hanging onto the (then) highly successful karate fighting format, introducing lots of never-before-seen baddies in the process. Although beat 'em ups such as Fist, etc are rather stale these days, and despite the fact that Fist II is displaying more than a few laughter lines after three and

SPEC £2.99

The quest is the same as the C64 version, and although the graphics are monochromatic they're better defined.

OVERALL 85%

C64 £2.99

Although showing its age, Fist II is an enjoyable beat 'em up containing weighty adventure overtones, resulting in a more satisfying challenge than its predecessor.

OVERALL 81%

a half years, the game is well worth the asking price, two totally different genres merging nicely to form a challenging and enjoyable game.



KELLY X 16-BLITZ

As Kelly X, you must make a bit of dosh for yourself as a galactic bin-man, blowing away scores of radioactive canisters, as well as the rogue dumpers who insist on dispersing the stuff in your quadrant.

Viewed in first-person perspective 3D, it's blasters ahoy as you take on the 3D filled vector graphic litter louts, dodging debris and laser fire as you go. Although it's graphically above average, Kelly X lacks any long-term addictive qualities due to its incredibly repetitive gameplay.

AMIGA £4.99

A mediocre 3D shoot 'em up, lacking any lasting interest due to a mixture of poor presentation and tedious gameplay.

OVERALL 41%



ROAD WARS 16-BLITZ

Now what could be a more pleasureable experience than rolling your balls down a long alleyway? That's the object of Road

Wars, Mastertronic's re-release of the Melbourne House arcade conversion. One or two players take their metallic spheroids for the ride of their lives down a seemingly endless road, shooting at or avoiding the likes of landmines, energy walls, rogue

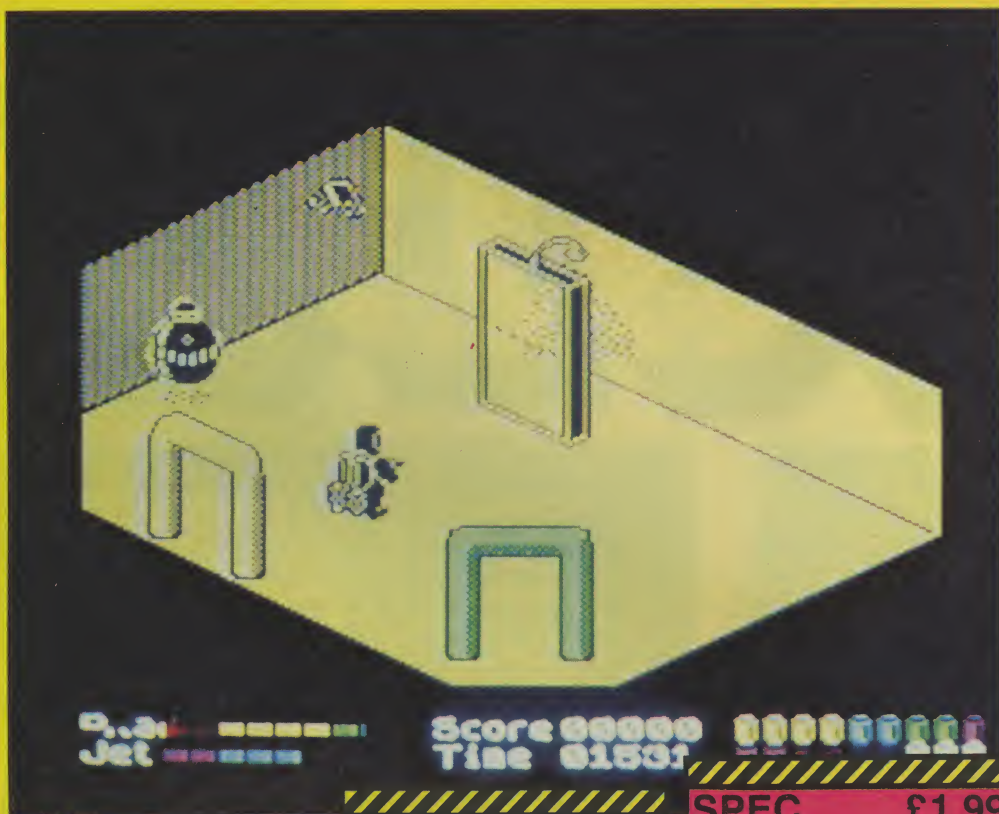


CHAIN REACTION ENCORE

This budget re-release, originally from Durell, has nothing whatsoever in common with the vomit-inducing Diana Ross ditty of the same name. Well, perhaps it does. They're both dire.

Some Green Party member has gone and dumped eighteen radioactive canisters throughout a seven-storey nuclear treatment plant, endangering the lives of all the staff who work there. Not very environmentally friendly, wouldn't you agree? What's more is you have 30 minutes in which to collect the canisters, make them safe and

Some Green Party member has gone and dumped eighteen radioactive canisters throughout a seven-storey nuclear treatment plant, endangering the lives of all the staff who work there. Not very environmentally friendly, wouldn't you agree? What's more is you have 30 minutes in which to collect the canisters, make them safe and combat the robot security system which has, purely by chance, gone haywire.



Chain Reaction is a particularly awful piece of software. Pathetic, chunky sprites, gaudy colour and a lack of anything to do other than collect the canisters results in a game best buried in concrete tomb for the next 10,000 years.

C64 £1.99

Awful colour, ineffective 3D and dull gameplay make Chain Reaction one to miss.

OVERALL 32%

SPEC £1.99

Mainly monochrome, with just a hint of conservatively-placed colour. The game is still a pile of old waste matter, though.

OVERALL 38%

satellites and, of course, the opposing player.

We thought Road Wars was rubbish when it was first released, and even at its new "giveaway" price tag the same feelings apply. The graphics look good, especially the digitised planet at the top of the playing area, but play itself reveals nothing more than completely pointless tedium.

ST £4.99

It looks good, it sounds good, but it plays very badly indeed with the end result that the game lacks any addictive qualities whatsoever.

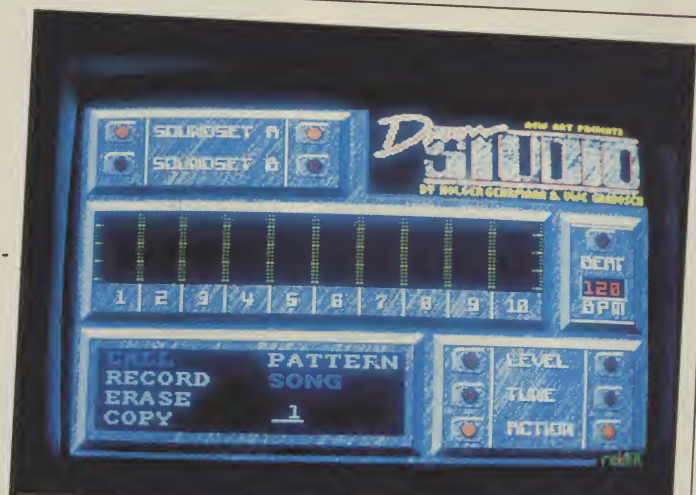
OVERALL 28%

DRUM STUDIO SMASH 16

Ever fancied yourself as a top drummer, but can't afford the hundreds of pounds which most decent drumkits cost? There is a cheaper solution, in the form of Drum Studio, rereleased at £4.99 from Smash 16.

Twenty percussion sounds are stored in the program, accessed by pressing the function keys. As only ten such keys are present, the sounds are held in two banks of ten, switchable by the press of a button. A recording facility is included to let you write your masterpiece and save it to disk, while pressing the space bar reveals a demo song to give you an idea of the capabilities of the utility.

Drum Studio can't be regarded as a serious help to the home musician. The sam-



pled sounds are a little scratchy and there is no option for mouse control (only keys are used). Still, at £4.99 budding Stock, Aitken and Watermen can't complain. It's a fun little package which should at least annoy the hell out of mum and dad, and that's what drumming is all about, isn't it?

AMIGA £4.99

Want to produce the next No.1? It's doubtful you'll do it with Drum Studio, but you'll have a lot of fun trying!

OVERALL 66%

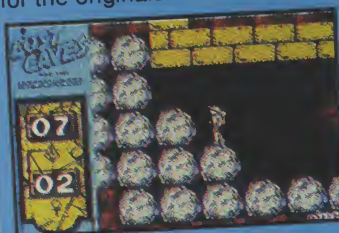
BUDGET

LOST CAVES PLAYERS PREMIER

You're lost in a treacherous underground cave system and, seeing as the Thunderbirds are busy starring in a game of their own, it looks as though you're gonna have to find your own way out.

If you think that's easy, think again. Before the exit to each of the sixteen caves unlocked, ten diamonds must be collected. And out to stop you is a gang of Nomad guardians, baying for blood and not happy at you being there.

Lost Caves is a straightforward Boulderdash clone, nothing more, nothing less. Games such as this used to be classic budget fodder but, with the much more playable Boulderdash I and II both available at the same price as this, you're better off going for the originals.



AMSTRAD £2.99

Sub-standard Boulderdash clone which lacks any improvements over earlier, better attempts at this game style.

OVERALL 42%

JOE BLADE II SMASH 16

It's now 1995, the year in which some weird old bag foresaw the end of the world - and it looks as though she could be right! Gangs of vicious hoodlums are terrorising the public, so Joe has been drafted in to sort 'em out.

Disposing of your prey requires a swift jump-kick to the face, picking up the points bonuses left behind. Also found walking around are spies, who are wired up to explosive devices. Tackling these opens up one of the sub-games included, which consist of sorting out a number of

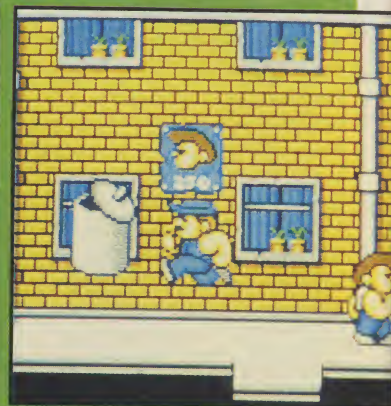
ST £4.99

Perhaps too similar to the prequel, Joe Blade II nevertheless contains all the addictive qualities of the previous game with generally better graphics to boot.

OVERALL 84%

strange symbols into their correct order.

Joe Blade II is a bit of a let-down after the first game, play being a bit too similar to the prequel. That said, there are big graphical improvements this time around, with



sprites and backdrops looking almost like cartoons. If you enjoyed the Joe Blade and are looking for more of the same, get your hands on this toute-de-suite. And everyone else, you get it too.

JOE BLADE SMASH 16

Joe's been sent to infiltrate an enemy POW camp and repatriate the hostages held there. To do so, he must make use of everything he finds, be they keys, extra ammo for his single shot gun, food and even enemy uniforms to disguise himself with.

This horizontal scroller is as good now as it was when it was first released - its new price makes it a slunna.

ST £4.99

An enjoyable arcade collect 'em up well suited to this new budget range.

OVERALL 90%



SCORE 00000000

TIMER 20.00

SPEEDBOAT ASSASSIN 16-BLITZ

Take to the water in an ultra-powered speedboat and, with the assistance of an allied cargo chopper, regain control of four of the world's busiest ports. Every thirty seconds or so, the 'copter attempts to dock with you, passing on more powerful weapons with successful docking. At the end of each level is an enormous tanker which, after many direct hits, explodes, allowing you to go on to the next harbour.

Poor Mastertronic. They started the craze for £4.99 budget 16 bit software yet they are the ones who are churning out the most abysmal stuff. Speedboat Assassin is, I'm afraid, one such example of dross. Much of the game can be completed

ST

£4.99

A very naff Roadblasters-type game based on water. It looks colourful, but the 3D doesn't work very well and the gameplay is very poor indeed.

OVERALL 33%

by simply travelling along one straight line, but when it's time to dock with the helicopter there's a whacking great mine in front of you, just itching to blow you to kingdom come. Graphics are awful - the boat looks ready to take off when you open the throttle - and objects look like they're going backwards when you're at top speed. Speedboat Assassin is an extremely poor attempt at a Roadblasters/Live And Let Die type game which isn't even worth its miniscule price tag.



THANATOS ENCORE

Thanatos is a hefty green dragon who likes nothing more than rescuing damsels in distress and toasting whole armies along the way. And what luck! For, far across the land is a fair maiden in need of assistance, and there's a whole legion of soldiers guarding her.

Using large dragon sprites throughout the game, Thanatos is impressive. The pesky humans pale in comparison to the flying lizards, being only little white stick men, but they're animated well enough. Play itself is rather

samey, but if you fancy the idea of taking on the guise of a mythological creature, battling against the odds on a mission of mercy, you could do worse than shell out a couple of quid for this.

SPEC

£1.99

The huge dragon sprite somewhat overshadows the quite repetitive blasting action, which will appeal to most for a week or so.

OVERALL 69%

AMSTRAD £2.99

Again, slower than Specy Thanatos, but the same rootin' tootin' fire-breathin' rigmarole.

OVERALL 67%

C64

£1.99

Apart from slower speed of play, the game is exactly the same as the Spectrum version, and similar comments apply.

OVERALL 68%

HARRIER ATTACK ENCORE

This is more than slightly past its sell-by date, isn't it? Well over five years ago, Harrier Attack burst onto Spectrum screens across the nation and met with howls of adulation. As pilot of a Harrier jump jet, the player must run the gauntlet of a barrage of enemy gunfire from land, sea and air, to reach the friendly aircraft carrier on the other side of the country.

C64

£2.99

A complete and utter pile of tosh. Horrible, garish colours, juddery scrolling and ghastly gameplay combine to produce a game guaranteed to leave both you and your C64 feeling very ill indeed.

OVERALL 19%

What made Harrier Attack so successful in its day was its deceptively simple game-

SPEC

£2.99

This crumbly old title has aged badly. Its simplistic gameplay, utterly dire graphics and appalling sound effects make it one to avoid at all costs.

OVERALL 26%

play, plus the fact that there weren't that many games around at the time. Fortunately, time waits for no tin of peas, and looking at the



game in 1989 it's very disappointing. Awful, juddery scrolling, titchy user-defined graphics, dodgy sound effects and lousy playability may have been acceptable back in the early eighties, but now? Take it away, please.

1 BATMAN

Batman - The Movie from Ocean

Taken from the brilliant blockbuster movie. Prowl the streets of Gotham City in your Batmobile. Come face to face with the dreaded Joker at the Axis Chemical Factory. Analyse the Joker's Nerve Gas in the Batcave and then prepare yourself for the final fight to the death in the cathedral.

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Beach Volley from Ocean

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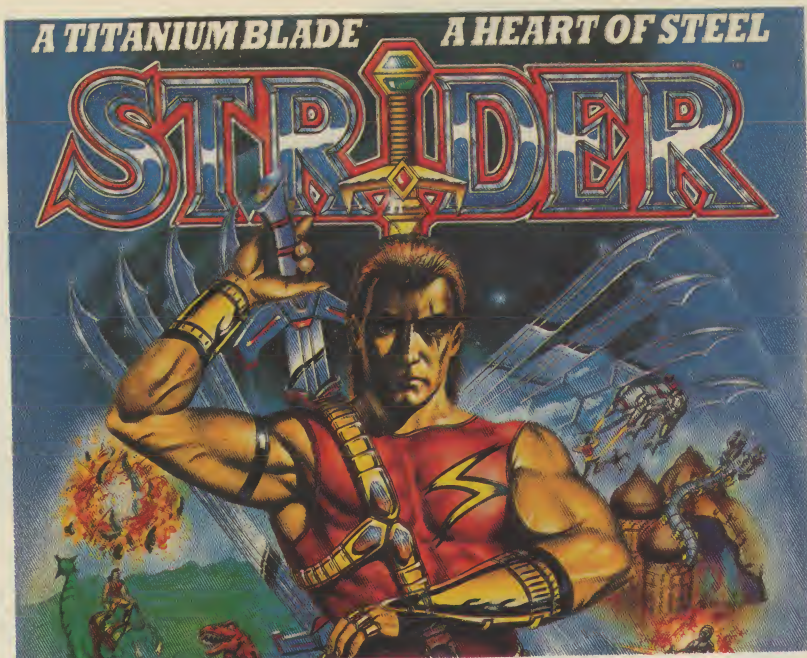
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from US Gold

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"Arcade fans who like their games spiced with plenty of action and rushing around are certainly going to enjoy this."

Amiga Format



Strider

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4

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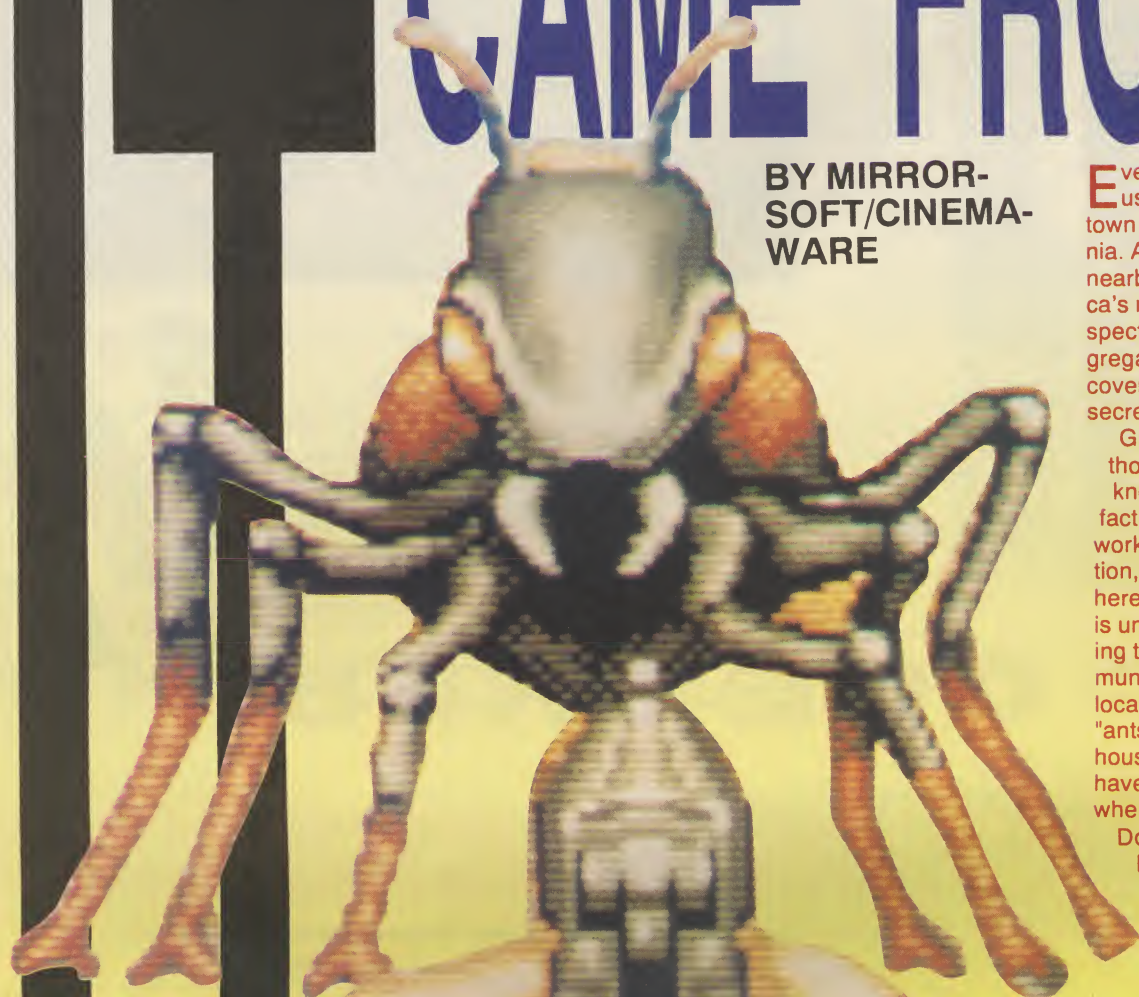
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IT CAME FROM THE

BY MIRROR-SOFT/CINEMAWARE



Everyone's flocking to the usually quiet 50's desert town of Lizard Breath, California. A meteor has landed nearby and some of America's most renowned and respected geologists have congregated in the hope of discovering its extra-terrestrial secrets.

Greg Bradley is one of those docs. He's not unknown to the townsfolk; in fact, his girlfriend Dusty works for the local radio station, KBUG. He too came here to look at the rocks, that is until stories began spreading throughout the community. They started with the local drunk babbling on about "ants the size of danged houses" which he claimed to have spotted near the site where the meteor crashed.

Doubt turned into dismay, however, when one of Greg's workers brought him a glowing rock which, when tested, revealed heavy radio activity levels.

Reports poured in of

▼ The pub. Useful leads and groovy sound



**C+VG
HIT!**

THE DESERT

badly mutilated cattle and unusual tracks in the soil, as well as ever-increasing sightings of giant insects. The community is worried; worse still, they're relying on Greg to rid their town of the six-legged terrors!

It Came From The Desert is the fifth Interactive Movie from Cinemaware, and continues the theme of classic films with an interpretation of the Big Bug genre of low-budget productions, the most famous of all being Them!

▼ *Recovering in the formic acid casualty ward.*

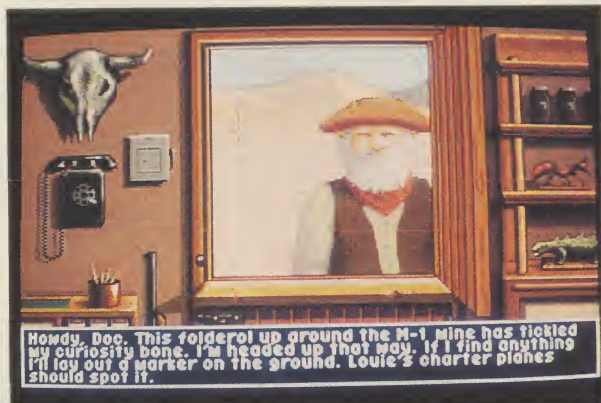


sounds



The player is cast as Dr Bradley, whose unenviable job is to rid Lizard Breath of the threat posed by the giant ants. As with the other titles in the series, It Came From The Desert relies on a balanced mixture of strategy and arcade play to convey the events. The battle begins on June 1st, with only two weeks to go before the ants multiply at such a rate that they overrun the town and rampage across the entire US of A.

The first problem for Bradley is to get the doubting mayor to actually believe the rumours of the enormous insects by collecting four pieces of conclusive evidence in the form of rock samples, tape recordings, creature fluids and body parts. Once the existence of the ants has been established, the task of discovering the whereabouts of the queen ant, which is churning out children at a frightening rate, must be tackled. By listening to local gossip (some of which is rumour, some of which is plain lies), interrogating townsfolk who claim to have come face-to-face with



▲ *The old timer suggests a new approach - from the air!*

the creatures and studying attack sites, an idea as to the location of the queen's nest can be formed, allowing Bradley to tackle her and save Lizard Breath.

In the meantime, the worker ants attack the town - you must combat them using the resources made available to you by the mayor, once he is convinced of the peril. The army, police force and townsfolk are at your disposal, groups of which can be deployed to areas of insect infestation. As well as humans, tanks and planes are available can also be commanded to assist in ant annihilation. And if you think that there's quite enough to attend to already, Bradley must also contend with the panic-stricken inhabitants of Lizard Breath, who aren't averse to a spot of knife-fighting and dangerous driving!

In the past, each Cinemaware game has been more enjoyable than the last (with the possible exception of SDI), and It Came From The Desert keeps with the tradition. Stored on three disks, and requiring at least a megabyte of memory, it's a large, very involved computer movie that's packed with the sort of aesthetic excellence which makes Cinemaware's titles stand out from the pack. Beginning with a sampled vocal introduction lasting around twenty seconds, the game bridges the gap between arcade action and strategic planning more successfully than any of its predecessors, requiring hard detective work and military style battle planning, not to

mention a mean joystick arm when you stumble across one of the half-dozen or so action scenes. It's tough and challenging, and it'll certainly take plenty of time before you manage to defeat the army of gi-ants!

It Came From The Desert is one of the best games yet seen on the Amiga. If you haven't got a 1-meg upgrade for your machine, here's a perfect excuse to go out and buy one. If you have, don't miss this under any circumstances.

PAUL RAND

UPDATE

Judging by the time taken to convert previous Cinemaware titles to other machines, It Came From The Desert looks unlikely to appear on the ST and C64 before this time next year, if at all. A PC version should be with us sometime in the near(ish) future, though.

| | |
|---|--------|
| AMIGA | £29.99 |
| GRAPHICS | 95% |
| SOUND | 93% |
| VALUE | 91% |
| PLAYABILITY | 94% |
| Superb graphics, sound and gameplay are all part and parcel of this stunning Cinemaware masterpiece. Don't miss it. | |
| OVERALL | 95% |

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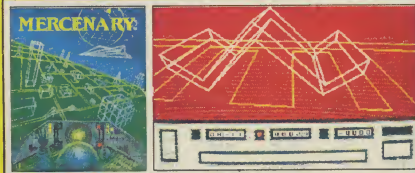
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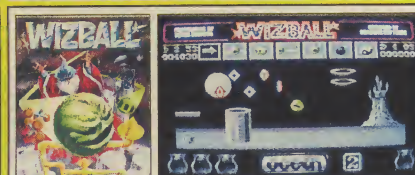
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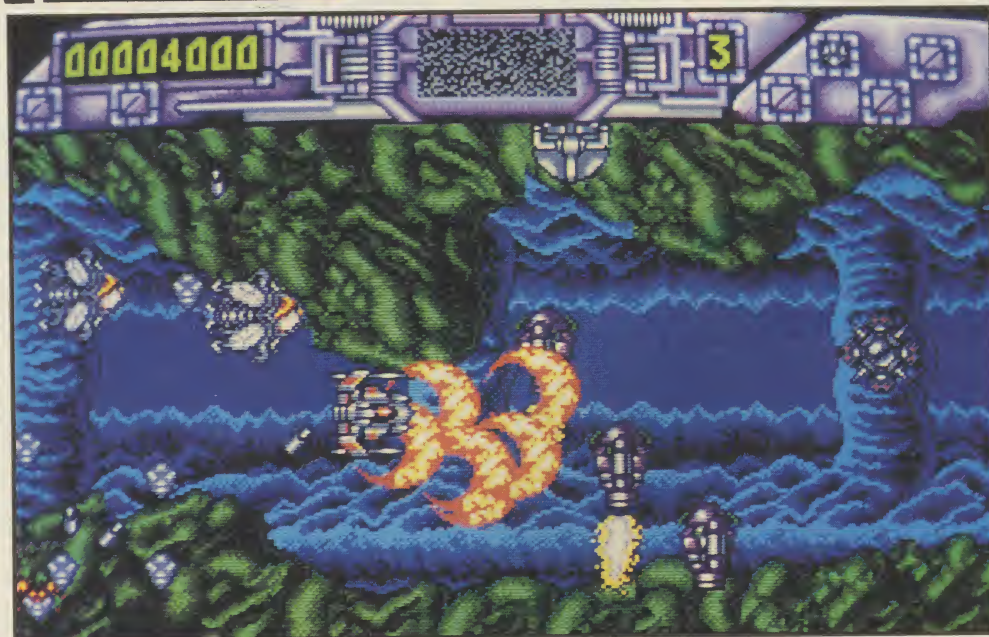
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▲ Neeooww! Karumph!!

the game by every possible route should stretch the game's lifespan a bit.

With each new level you get a new set of scenery graphics to scroll over, but

guns, a droid which flies in front or behind, and two "out-rider" cannons which can be powered up into mighty laser beams, a bit like the ones in Xenon II. A fully beweaponed

ship is quite a spectacular sight and it can torch more aliens than I've had hot dinners this week, though it's by no means invincible.

The graphics throughout the game are nothing short of superb (especially those sub-aquatic boss aliens, which really are out of this world). Big, metallic spaceships and colourful backdrops pack out the screen. BUT (and this is a very big "but") while the sprites are large, the playing area is comparatively minute, which means dodging bullets and beasts AND keeping off the scenery is bloomin' difficult, not to mention being just a wee bit aggravating.

Darius Plus isn't a bad game, by any standards though. In fact it's pretty addictive stuff, but, myself, I continued playing more to see the graphics than to relish the destructive delights of the gameplay. And that's not quite the way it should be, I think.

PAUL GLANCEY

DARIUS

BY THE
EDGE

Taito's three-screens-of-excitement coin-op was never a big hit in the arcades, partly because not many arcade owners could afford such a gigantic cabinet, but mainly because it just wasn't anything special in sideways-scrolling shoot 'em up terms.

Luckily for The Edge, the Amiga blaster market is rather less competitive than the coin-op blaster market, so anything with pretty graphics, noisy sound effects and a modicum of gameplay is bound to do well. And that's about where Darius Plus fits into the universal scheme of things.

Basically it's one of those mega space shoot 'em ups, with mega weapons making for mega kill factor. Your mission of no-mercy starts in sector one of 28. The sectors fan out and as you complete one you get a choice of two to tackle next, so completing



the alien hordes stay more or less the same in their appearance and attack patterns. Taking them out makes very heavy demands on the old fire button finger, but you can kit your ship out with a powerful array of extra weapons.

By flying into spiky tokens you can build up four weapon systems - the ship's main

UPDATE

ST and 8 bit versions should be on the shelves very soon. The ST version is going to look surprisingly similar to its Amiga counterpart, but of the Spectrum and Commodore versions, we know nothing.

PLUS

| | |
|-------------|--------|
| AMIGA | £19.99 |
| GRAPHICS | 90% |
| SOUND | 84% |
| VALUE | 78% |
| PLAYABILITY | 70% |

Better to look at than to play, but Darius Plus has enough action for experienced blasters to get their teeth into.

OVERALL 79%

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Which games do you think are the best this year? Here's your chance to tell us as we take votes for the Golden Joystick awards, the computer games equivalent of the Oscars. Just look at the different categories and choose YOUR favourite games of this year. Please make sure your nominations reach us by Jan 15th, as after that day we'll be compiling all the awards which will be published in the April edition of C+VG.

As a special bonus, the first form pulled out of the mailbag after the 15th will win its sender a software goodie bag worth over 100 and a C+VG t-shirt! So get your thinking caps on and send your form to: GOLDEN JOYSTICKS, C+VG, PRIORY COURT, 30-32 FARRINGTON LANE, LONDON, EC1R 3AU.

BEST COIN-OP CONVERSION

.....
BEST NON-COIN-OP LICENCE (FILM, TV, CHARACTER, etc)

.....
BEST SIMULATION

.....
BEST ORIGINAL GAME

.....
PROGRAMMER OF THE YEAR

.....
SOFTWARE HOUSE OF THE YEAR

.....
GAME OF THE YEAR

.....
NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....
I OWN A

C&VG AND U.S.G

OUT RUN™. "Take the wheel of a Ferrari Testarossa and test your driving skills on some of the meanest roads this side of the M25! And there's no speed limit..."



ROAD BLASTERS™. "Not only do you get to burn up the opposition, you also get the chance to nuke the ****ers off the road!"



SPY HUNTER™. "Classic bumpin', crashin', smashin', road burnin', enemy trashin' action as you carve up the freeway in this conversion of the classic horizontally scrolling shoot 'em up."



Out Run™

START



ROAD BLASTERS™



SPY HUNTER™



A FIVESOME OF ARCADE ACTION

A collection of five of the best selling arcade titles of all time, now available in one action

GOLD PRESENT...



THUNDERBLADE™. "Take control of an advanced helicopter gunship and blow up hordes of enemy tanks and aircraft in this thrilling conversion of the massive Sega coin-op."



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Reviews by Julian Rignall
 Editor of C & VG.

SCREEN SHOTS FROM VARIOUS SYSTEMS



ACTION ... FOR YOUR COMPUTER

smash pack that'll send your heartbeat into convulsions and your head into orbit.



U.S. GOLD LTD., Units 2/3 Holford Way, Holford, Birmingham B6 7AX. Tel: 021 625 3388



▲ "Gennelmen... Start yer engines!"



▲ A collision with a barrier puts the car in a tight spot.



▲ Whizzing past the grandstand at 200 mph.



Since just after the turn of the century, drivers have risked life and limb in the Indianapolis 500, a motor race so called because (a) it's staged on Indianapolis' Motor Speedway Track, and (b) it's 500 miles long. Now this simulation gives you licence to drive the Indy, and without even the risk of getting oil on your trousers.

Unfortunately, any road racer which takes itself so seriously that it bills itself as a "simulation" is one of those games with a mouse-operated wind tunnel, an icon-driven pit crew, and all the speed and thrills of a Tri-Ang "Mr Chugalug" pedal car. Indianapolis 500 has those sorts of options too, but the difference is that they complement the fastest, most exhilarating and most realistic driving action I have EVER seen outside of an arcade!

You start your practice or qualifying lap in the pits, where you're given the option to tinker with anything from the composition of the rubber on your tyres to the rigidity of the roll bars. All the customising features have some effect on your car's performance, and hence your driving style - it's up to you to experiment until you've got the optimum settings then save them to disk for future use.

If, like me, you're after thrills first and a physics les-

son afterwards you'll more than likely roll straight out onto the track. I was a little surprised to find that there's no provision to let you use a mouse to steer, but fortunately the response from a joystick or the keypad is perfectly adequate. I found it best to use the cursor keys, as it's easier to reach the keys activating the turbo boost and cruise control(!). Gear change is automatic, but you can go into reverse by holding down the decelerate key.

Indianapolis 500's most outstanding feature is undoubtedly the astounding 3D graphics which you're treated to as you screech around the circuit. The level of detail can be set to suit the capabilities of your PC, but playing the game on a 13 MHz VGA machine graphics allowed me to marvel at the speed and smoothness with which trees, barriers, buildings, people and even a huge grandstand (you can actually see its supporting beams!) flowed past the cockpit. I mean, you may have thought the graphics on the ST versions of Hard Drivin' and Stunt Car Racer were good... I thought they were good, but this is on possibly another plane of existence!

The other vehicles are superb, solid-looking models of Indy cars are so realistic that when you crash into one,

BY ELECTRONIC ARTS



bits of bodywork fly off and scatter on the track! If you do crash, you don't just disappear or suddenly stop as in other race games. In Indy, you actually spin off, and you can keep spinning until you either lose momentum or regain control of the car by steering into the skid.

One of the most fun features of Indy is the ability to stop the action at any point and replay the last 20 seconds, viewed from various positions above and around the track, and from inside or behind your car. The practical use of this is of course to help you study the best line to take through a corner, or how a certain adjustment to the car alters the way you drive. However, I found it was great fun to drive into other cars at full tilt, then watch the resulting smash from all angles! The realism of the graphics make it look like those snippets of "Motor Racing Disasters We've Enjoyed This Season" that Murray Walker treats Grandstand viewers to every once in a while.

Not only does Indianapolis 500 look good, it plays good too. The other cars drive very competitively even in a beginner's race, so getting to the front of the pack, and indeed, just getting a decent lap time is down to lots of practice and hours of customising. But

every hundredth of a second is worth it. Now back to Desmond in the studio.

PAUL GLANCEY

UPDATE

There are no firm plans for other versions as yet, but there's bound to be one hell of a demand for other 16 bit versions, so Electronic Arts say, "Consider them considered".

PC £24.99

GRAPHICS 96%
SOUND 74%
VALUE 95%
PLAYABILITY 96%

The best race game you'll see outside of an arcade. If you haven't got a PC, consider buying one. If you have, get your hands on this at all costs.

OVERALL 96%

C+VG HIT!



▲ Neesycoww! The Penske-Chevrolet motors past.

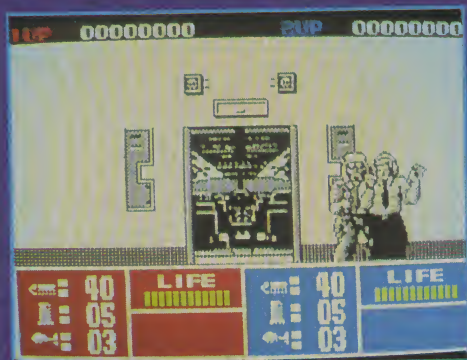


▲ Kerrunch! A competitor cannons into the March-Cosworth!

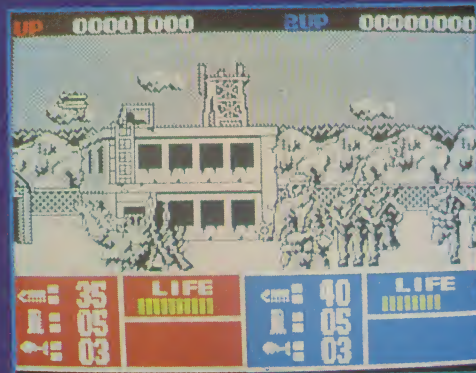


▲ Dops! A three car pileup just outside the pit lane!





BY OCEAN



OP THUNDERBOLT

Last year Ocean's conversions of Operation Wolf took the Christmas charts by storm, and this year the sequel, Operation Thunderbolt, looks set to do the same.

Based on the Taito coin-op in which features a pair of cabinet-mounted Uzi machine pistols, Operation Thunderbolt casts the players as two soldiers of fortune who are on a six-level mission to rescue hostages from a hijacked plane which has been forced to land deep behind enemy lines.

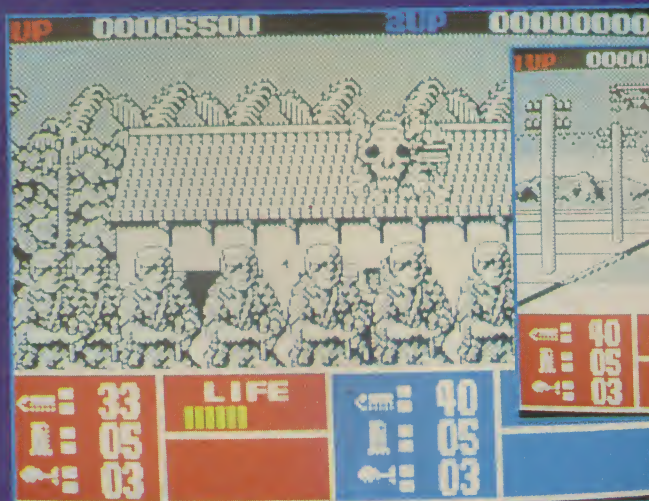
The action starts with 3D level in which you run down a road, picking off hordes of soldiers and helicopters with your on-screen cursor before they have a chance to open fire and wear down your energy bar. Careful shooting is the key here since you have limited amounts of ammunition.

If things get too hot you can always give yourself a little breathing room by letting rip with a bazooka missile, which clears the area for a couple of seconds.

As you progress through the level, extra weapons can be picked up by shooting boxes and items on the ground - these include rapid fire, laser sights and extra rockets, energy and Uzi magazines.

Next is an Operation Wolf-style horizontally scrolling level in which even more soldiers and vehicles are present to give you severe hassle.

Subsequent levels switch between 3D and horizontally



▲ A terrorist line of death.

scrolling, depicting a hazardous trip through the jungle, a ride over water in a speedboat, a hazardous dash across the enemy airport and finally the storming of the plane itself. This is very tough, with passengers running everywhere - shoot them and you lose energy - and baddies leaping out from all angles. Get to the end of the plane and shoot the hijackers and you complete the mission.

Although some might say that Operation Thunderbolt offers little new, the implementation of both versions are excellent. The gameplay is action-packed with loads of things to blast - I've never seen so many sprites on-screen at once!! It's very tough indeed, and takes a lot of practice before you can even get past the first level without using the continue op-

tion if you're playing solo - having a friend handy is advisable!

Novices might find Operation Thunderbolt too tough, but if you're a fan of Operation Wolf style games and are after a challenge, try this out.

JULIAN RIGNALL

UPDATE

We've seen demos of the 16 bit conversions of Op Thunderbolt and despite some slightly jerky sprites, all the action of the coin-op is in there, and the ability to use the mouse makes the game even more playable than the 8 bit games. Watch out for it!

▼ Take out the choppers!



AMSTRAD £9.99

GRAPHICS 86%
SOUND 81%
VALUE 78%
PLAYABILITY 83%

Very tough, but highly addictive. Definitely one of the top Amstrad arcade conversions around at the moment.

OVERALL 80%

SPEC £8.99

A great conversion with more shootables on screen than ever before. Get down to the software store and check it out, double quick!

OVERALL 80%

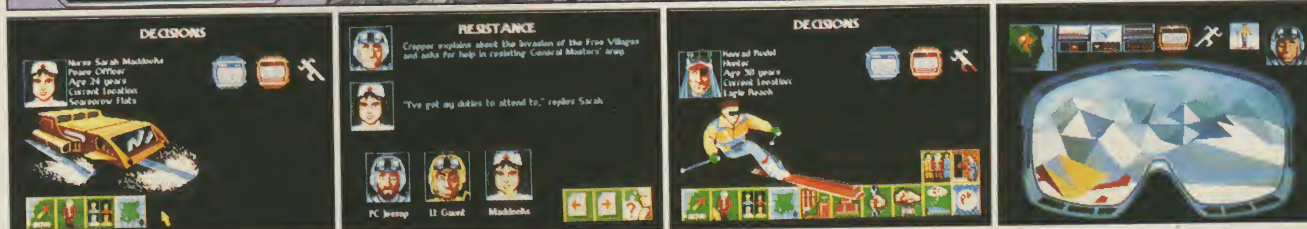
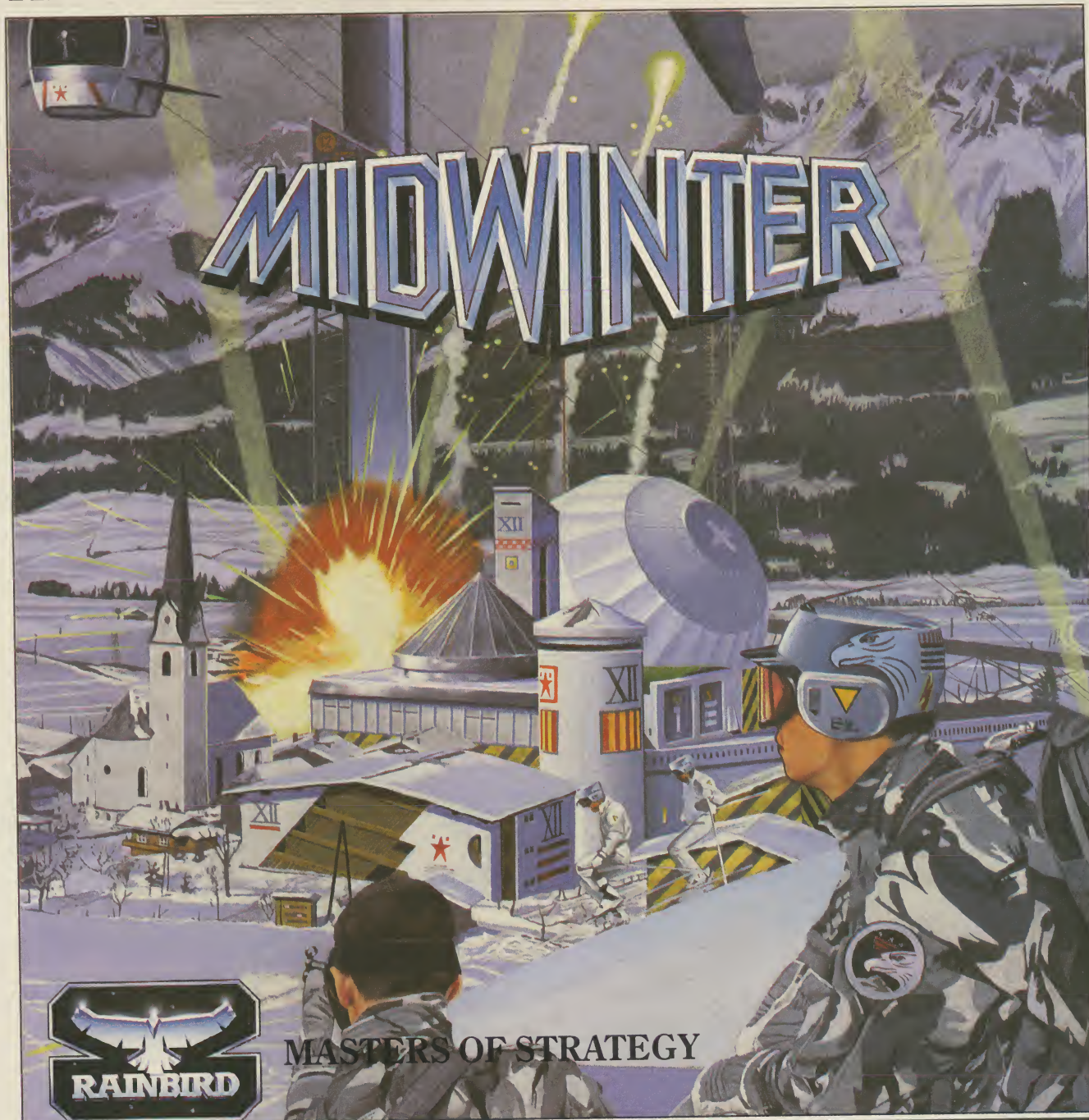
GLOBAL WARMING? – RUBBISH

THE NEXT ICE AGE STARTS IN 1 MONTH

Imagine a 30 Kilometre meteor smashing into the Earth. Imagine a new Ice Age. The Earth, beaten and frozen, yields it's last island oasis. This last refuge is threatened by ruthless invaders. The history of the island, charts and maps of your 80,000 square mile refuge and a 32 strong band of defenders is yours. The first shot has been fired and time is not on your side.

WHEN THE LEVELS OF DIAMOND DUST IN THE ATMOSPHERE REACH A CRITICAL LEVEL. THE RESULT IS ...

**A BLEND OF DEEP DEEP STRATEGY & ACTION
THAT ONLY HAPPENS ONCE IN EVERY 500m YEARS.**



MicroProse, Unit 1, Hampton Road Industrial Estate, Tetbury, Glos, GL8 8DA.

NYEEEEAGH! SLASH!

WIN VIRGIN'S GHETTO BLASTER AND BE A NINJA WARRIOR WITH STREET CRED

Cast your minds back... baaaack... to last issue, which featured a review of Virgin Mastertronic's latest Taito coin-op conversion, *Ninja Warriors*. To say we thought it was fab would be a bit of an understatement, really, as the ST and Amiga versions came out of the reviewing chamber with a C+VG HIT! each - 85% and 86% respectively.

Now then, to celebrate the launch of *Ninja Warriors*, those mad-dog cyberslashers at Virgin have somehow got

hold of the *Ninja Warriors* arcade music on compact disc, and they want to give away these exclusive toons to one C+VG reader. "Only one CD? Surely the Branson Boys can do better than that?" we hear you shriek. Well, actually, they're quite a bit more generous than that, and just so the winner can listen to those groovy soundz wherever they go, Virgin are throwing in a top quality ghetto blaster with built-in radio, cassette deck AND a compact disc player! Ker-whoar!

As well as all this ("What? There's MORE?!" - astonished reader) Virgin are going to give away copies of the game to fifteen runners-up. Is there no bottom to their pockets?



HOW TO WIN

Dead easy really. Check out les questions below, and rub your forehead vigorously until the answers occur to you. Then, quickly find a biro and a postcard (or sealed-down envelope) and write your answers down. Slap on a stamp and send it to this address: THE "BANZAI, I'M GOING FOR A SLASH" COMPO, COMPUTER AND VIDEO GAMES, PRIORY COURT, 30-32 FARRINGDON LANE, LONDON, EC1R 3AU. Get your entries in by January 31st or we'll send someone around to slit yer gizzard.

QUESTION TIME

- 1: What colour clothing are Ninjas usually caught wearing?
- 2: Name three other home computer games in which Ninjas take a starring role?
- 3: What's the proper "Oriental" name of those star-shaped weapons that Ninjas like to keep about their person and lob at nasty people?

FIRST CONTACT

FIRST CONTACT . . . A MEETING OF SPECIES
— BUT NO MEETING OF MINDS.

Outnumbered, outgunned — human cunning and ingenuity are your only chance!

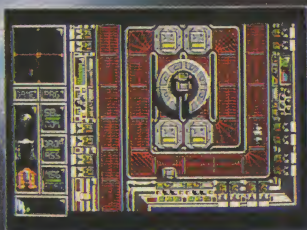
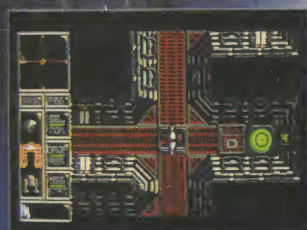
Mankind is prosperous, unthreatened and therefore militarily weak, yet through technical supremacy has spread throughout the galaxy. The unthinkable has happened — thousands of armed alien vessels pass unchallenged through the occupied quadrants of the galaxy. The first violation has occurred. Alien forces penetrate the station 9W/4 vital to human inter-galactic communication. Your cunning and ingenuity in controlling and programming the maintenance droid on the station is the last hope of mankind.

- Strategic gameplay giving months of enjoyment.
- Fast paced action.
- Superb graphics.
- Immense play area with four decks and entire alien vessel.
- Attention to detail gives total enjoyment.
- Choice of action orientation or deep strategic play.

ANOTHER RAINBIRD CLASSIC



SCREEN SHOTS MAY VARY.



MASTERS OF STRATEGY



UGH

Okay, monkey chops - here's a game that's a little different. Rather than casting you in the starring role as a big muscle-bound hero, or as ace space pilot, UGH! puts you in control of a gorilla whose job it is to swing his way along a horizontally scrolling landscape, destroying and dodging as many baddies as possible.

There are plenty of power-ups to collect as you swing through the trees, and all sorts of weird and wonderful jungle creatures to thump into oblivion. The going is tough, but it's great fun and is very addictive to boot. Make sure you've got a pocketful of coins before you start playing!

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| GRAPHICS | 84% |
| SOUND | 85% |
| VALUE | 82% |
| PLAYABILITY | 87% |
| OVERALL | 86% |





CAL 50

Boasting fabulous graphics and gameplay, Cal 50 is a superb vertically scrolling shoot 'em up which plays similarly to Ikari Warriors, but is miles better.

It's a game of mayhem and destruction as one or two players guide commandos deep into enemy territory with the sole objective of causing as much grief to the enemy as possible by blasting them with a wide variety of machine guns, bazookas and missile launchers.

There are loads of enemy soldiers, gun em-

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| GRAPHICS | 89% |
| SOUND | 87% |
| VALUE | 81% |
| PLAYABILITY | 88% |

OVERALL 87%

placements and vehicles to blow up, and there are the obligatory giant end-of-level vehicles to overcome.

Anyone who enjoys a good shoot 'em up should love this - check it out as soon as possible...





WORLD CUP '89

Temco's latest is a really neat football game which combines excellent graphics and great gameplay to produce one of the best arcade football games yet seen.

It's a tricky game to play, with a multitude of different shots available to the player, but once you get used to the action, you can string together moves that make Brazil look like Tranmere Rovers on a bad day!

The computer teams are tough, and it can get frustrating trying to break down the opponent's defences - and the computer has an annoying tendency to score late winning goals! But that's football, Brian. If you're after a challenging soccer game, don't miss this.

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| GRAPHICS | 82% |
| SOUND | 78% |
| VALUE | 81% |
| PLAYABILITY | 85% |

OVERALL 83%

WORLD MASTERS



World Masters is a new golf game from Sega, and it's terrific! First off you're given a

3D wide-on preview of the hole, then it's off to the tee, with a behind the player view to make the shot. To

gauge the power of the shot you have a spring loaded trigger which you pull back and release. The more you pull back, the harder the shot.

Timing is important, however. There's a meter on the screen with a pointer that goes up and down while you're making the shot. Release while it's in the middle of the meter and your shot goes straight (or at least as straight as the wind allows). Left or right sees the ball veering accordingly. Putting is similar, only you have to take into account the slope of the green.

World Masters is easily the best golf game around at the moment. The slick graphics and the accessibility of play make it a real for sports fans everywhere - and look out for it when it hits the Megadrive.

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| GRAPHICS | 88% |
| SOUND | 81% |
| VALUE | 80% |
| PLAYABILITY | 87% |

OVERALL 85%



The PC Engine logo, featuring the text "PC Engine" in a stylized, italicized font with a starburst graphic behind the word "Engine".

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Sega Megadrive Scart (incl. 1 game) | £169.00 | Nintendo Gameboy | £79.90 |
| PC Engine PAL (incl. 2 games) | £185.00 | Gameboy (incl. Tetris | |
| PC Engine Scart (incl. 2 games) | £159.00 | and 2-player lead) | £109.90 |
| Atari Lynx (incl. Cal games) | £199.90 | CD-ROM Unit (incl. Fighting Str.) | £325.00 |

[illegible]

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| Joystick XE-1 ST | £29.90 |
| Joypad | £19.90 |

Mail Order only



you as soon as you get the hang of it and soon becomes frighteningly addictive.

Options for two players to play against or co-operate with each other add extra appeal, and the end result is a puzzle/shooting game which you just can't stop sticking coins into. Play it at your peril!

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| GRAPHICS | 68% |
| SOUND | 57% |
| VALUE | 88% |
| PLAYABILITY | 97% |
| OVERALL | 92% |

PANG

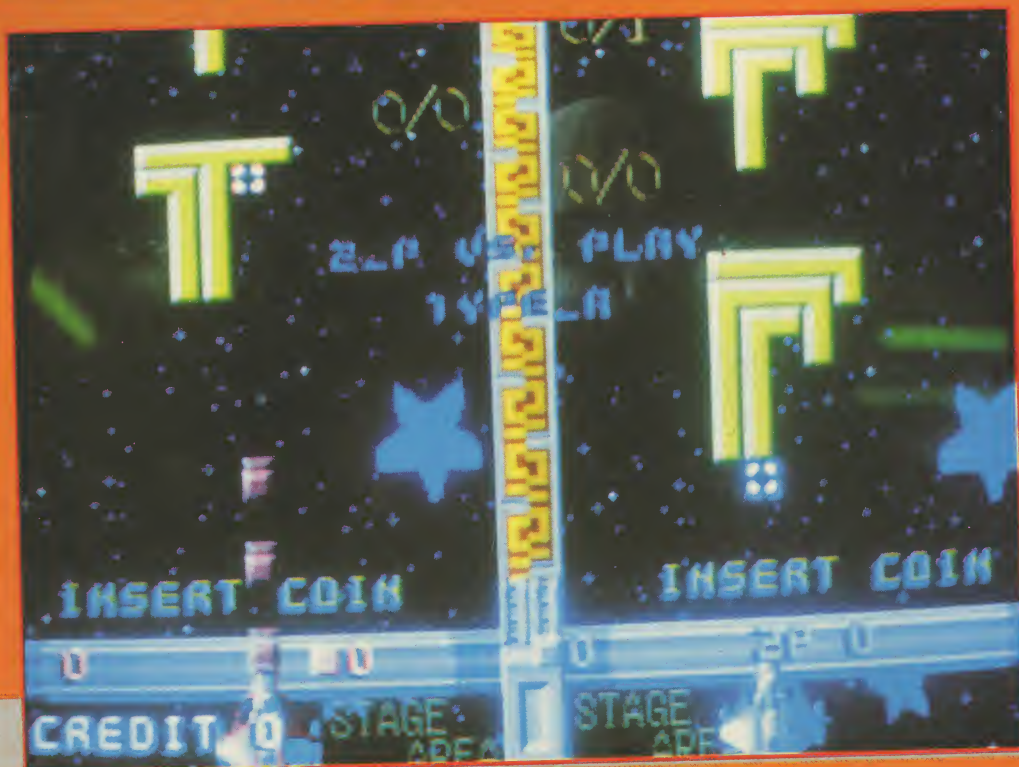


BLOCK HOLE

Imagine a cross between progressive Breakout, Space Invaders and Tetris. Now you have some idea of what Block Hole is about.

You control a space ship that moves horizontally along the bottom of the screen, firing bricks. Down from the top of the screen, step by step, come waves of irregular shapes. What you have to do is make these shapes into rectangles and squares by firing bricks at 'em. When this happens, the whole shape disappears. However, if you don't manage to do it in time and any part of the shape touches the bottom of the screen, you lose a life.

It sounds a bit dull, but rest assured that it grips





A cute and silly little game just hitting the arcades at the moment is Pang, a strange sort of shoot 'em up.

The player controls Pang, a little chap who can run left and right across the bottom of the screen and shoot upwards. Around the screen bounce a load of big balls. Shoot them and they break in half, creating smaller balls. Shoot the halves and they break into two smaller balls, which can be shot and destroyed. Since touching a ball results in the loss of a life, the action is pretty hectic, with Pang running about like a maniac dodging a myriad of spheres.

Fortunately there are plenty of extra weapons to pick up, but they don't stop the game being very tricky. The going is tough, but if you're prepared to stick with it, there are plenty of rewards to be had. Give it a go.

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| GRAPHICS | 78% |
| SOUND | 77% |
| VALUE | 72% |
| PLAYABILITY | 79% |
| OVERALL | 78% |



► ARCADE HIGHSCORES

Welcome to the Official UK Arcade Highscore Table, the place where all of Britain's coin-op records top are displayed. If you're a record breaker, why not get famous by sending in your scores to: **ARCADE HIGHSCORES, C+VG, PRIORY COURT, 30-32 FARRINGDON LANE, LONDON EC1R 3AU.** Our panel of experts will look at your scores, and if they're judged to be genuine, they'll be included in the table. One of a couple of scores questioned by The Panel this month is a claim of 937,790,000 on Robotron, sent in by Chris Ford of Lancing. You'd have to play the game for more than six days solid to achieve this - or perhaps there's a cheat? Another, 94,171,190 on Ghouls 'n' Ghosts, sounds dodgy - how on Earth did you get that, Duncan George of Twyford? Another cheat? Perhaps both of you would like to write in and explain how you got these scores? If not, prepare to face the wrath of The Panel...

1942

12,110,830 Colin McWhirter (CMC), Ballymena, N Ireland
AFTERBURNER
 24,555,000 John Bristow, Erith, Kent
ALIEN SYNDROME
 843,010 Colin McWhirter, Ballymena, N Ireland
ARKANOID
 1,478,760 Stewart Bell, Macclesfield, Cheshire
ASSAULT
 335,550 Martin Deem, Portsmouth
ATOMIC ROBOKID
 14,101,430 Symon Brown, London
BATTLE RANGERS
 199,980 Wilson Lau, King's Lynn, Norfolk
BLASTEROIDS
 2,539,740 EGG, Portsmouth
BOMB JACK
 45,672,800 Gary Harrod, Poole
CABAL
 4,225,000 John Bristow, Erith, Kent
CHASE HQ
 17,285,000 John Bristow, Erith, Kent
CHELNOV
 345,700 Martin Deem, Portsmouth
CRIMEFIGHTERS
 225 Jermaine Allen, London
DARIUS
 4,293,600 Keith Bradley, Blackburn, Lancs
DEMON WORLD
 1,501,500 Martin Deem, Portsmouth
DOUBLE DRAGON
 999,999 Colin McWhirter, Ballymena, N Ireland
DOUBLE DRAGON II
 885,000 John Bristow, Erith, Kent
DRAGON BREED
 957,620 Symon Brown, London
DRAGON SPIRIT
 985,950 Jamie Morse (JIM), Weston-Super-Mare
DYNAMITE DUKE
 1,337,900 Gary Harrod, Poole

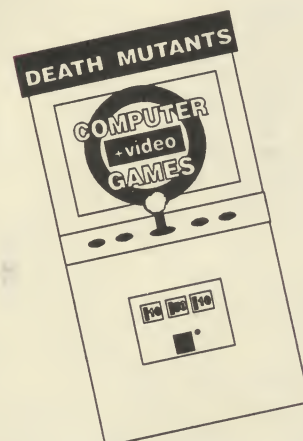
DYNASTY WARS

864,100 Peter Amor, Clevedon, Avon
FINAL BLOW
 926,910 Ben Ware, Shenfield
FINAL ROUND
 11,945,600 Tim Walker, Brighton
FLYING SHARK
 2,949,600 Gary Harrod, Poole
FORGOTTEN WORLDS
 6,927,600 Gary Harrod (GJH), Portsmouth
GALAGA 88
 1,678,070 Chris Ford (CAF), Lancing, W Sussex
GALAXY FORCE
 2,075,980 Alex Ware, Shenfield
GANG WARS
 79,950 Anthony Shilson (BUZ), Tiptree, Essex
GEMINI WINGS
 1,108,640 Martin Deem, Portsmouth
GHOSTS 'N' GOBLINS
 7,554,700 Simon Lennok, N Ireland
GHOULS 'N' GHOSTS
 74,180 Alex Ware, Shenfield
GOLDEN AXE
 265.0 Gary Harrod, Poole
HANG-ON
 49,658,320 Martin Deem (MJD), Portsmouth
HAUNTED CASTLE
 368,220 Gavin Davis, Swansea
HELLFIRE
 327,000 Julian Rignall (JAZ), Southend
HOT CHASE
 270,540 Alex Ware (AKW), Shenfield
IKARI WARRIORS
 1,353,300 Martin Deem, Portsmouth
KING OF BOXER
 487,000 Michael Pearson (MP), Staiths, Cleveland
LEGEND HERO TONMA
 209,890 Chris Ford, Lancing
MARBLE MADNESS
 208,340 Martin Deem, Portsmouth
MAIN EVENT
 5,486,800 Tim Walker, Brighton

NARC

3,360,050 Robin Levy (RJL), Exeter
NEMESIS
 1,376,400 Mario Kyriacou, Canterbury, Kent
NEW ZEALAND STORY
 3,500,000 Martin Deem, Portsmouth
NINJA WARRIORS
 238,100 TOD, Ballymena, Antrim
OPERATION THUNDERBOLT
 386,390 R G Porter (ROB), Lancaster
OPERATION WOLF
 1,061,100 Neil Kelly, Isleworth, Middlesex
ORDYNE
 471,840 Alex Ware, Shenfield
OUTRUN
 56,024,110 Peter Amor, Clevedon, Avon
OUTRUN TURBO
 22,690,020 Anthony Shilson (BUZ), Tiptree, Essex
PACLAND
 4,936,910 Martin Deem, Portsmouth
P-47
 1,675,890 Chris Ford, Lancing, W Sussex
POW
 233,720 Colin McWhirter, Ballymena, N Ireland
POWER DRIFT
 5,798,625 Morris Wilson (BMW), London
PREHISTORIC ISLE
 1,606,600 Gary Harrod (GJH), Poole
QUARTET
 8,576,750 James Washburn, Essex
RASTAN SAGA
 1,081,000 Colin McWhirter, Ballymena, N Ireland
RASTAN II
 894,950 Jamie Morse (JIM), Weston-Super-Mare
RAINBOW ISLANDS
 430,500 Michael Pearson (MP), Staiths, Cleveland
ROADBLASTERS
 1,560,000 Stu, Melton Mowbray, Leics
ROBOCOP
 4,931,400 Tim Walker, Brighton
ROCK 'N' RAGE
 9,999,990 J Stevens, Cranfield, Beds
SAINT DRAGON
 940,370 Colin McWhirter, Ballymena, N Ireland
SECRET AGENT
 675,300 Adam Davidson, Manchester
SHADOW WARRIORS
 203,900 Gary Harrod, Poole, Dorset
SHAO-LIN'S ROAD
 11,834,000 Firoz Rawat, Manchester
SHINOBI
 504,590 Jeff Purnell (JEF), Clevedon, Avon
SIDE ARMS
 1,837,800 Jeff Purnell (JEF), Clevedon, Avon
SILKWORM
 2,449,400 Robin Forsberg, Sodermalm, Sweden
SKY ADVENTURES
 6,641 Gary Harrod, Poole
SKY SOLDIERS
 2,379,760 Gary Harrod (GJH), Portsmouth
SPLATTERHOUSE

408,000 Adrian Smart (AA), Hereford
STRIDER
 312,480 James Clarke, Didsbury, Manchester
SUPER CONTRA
 12,858,900 Gavin Davis, Swansea
SUPER HANG-ON
 BEG: 29,874,670 Martin Deem, Portsmouth
 JUN: 38,911,000 Martin Deem, Portsmouth
 SEN: 51,000,000 Martin Deem, Portsmouth
 EXP: 24,090,220 Martin Deem, Portsmouth
SUPERMAN
 2,010,700 Gary Harrod, Poole, Dorset
TERRA FORCE
 857,700 Shaun Osbourne (SFO), Ashford
TETRIS
 179,938 Jeff Purnell (JEF), Clevedon, Avon
TIGER ROAD
 1,740,000 Firoz Rawat, Manchester
THUNDERCROSS
 8,004,720 Craig Ross, Falkirk, Stirlingshire
TOOBIN'
 14,534,440 Martin Deem, Portsmouth
TRUXTON
 1,883,090 Gary Harrod, Poole, Dorset
TWIN COBRA
 2,221,680 Martin Deem, Portsmouth
UN SQUADRON
 1,333,810 Gary Harrod, Poole
VINDICATORS
 891,400 Jamie Morse (JIM), Weston-Super-Mare
VIOLENCE FIGHT
 219,200 Jamie Morse (JIM), Weston-Super-Mare
VULCAN VENTURE
 945,650 Colin McWhirter, Ballymena, N Ireland
WARDNER
 12,025,275 Paul Stokes (PJ), Aberdare
WONDERBOY III
 427,700 William Wong, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Cheshire
WILLOW
 1,430,600 Gary Harrod, Poole
WINNING RUN
 2:08:00* Julian Rignall, Southend



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ADVENTURE

Why oh why do these so-called adventurers keep getting stuck? Who knows? Well, here's Keith Campbell - he's got all the answers to your problems, and has all the latest adventuring news.

Nobody has ever written with a single clue for *Mindfighter*. Could this be because those people unfortunate enough to have purchased a copy gave up ages ago through sheer boredom and revulsion at this awful game? But Robert Morgan of Glasgow is resolutely battling on, and can't get over the electrified fence without getting fried. "There is a book which accompanies the game and it's supposed to help you, although that is debatable!" he writes. "In it, the hero simply metamorphoses into a bird and flies over the fence, but no matter what I type I can't get him to change." Hmmm - nor could I!

Tormod Ugelstad of Nanset in Norway has a whole bunch of Sierra questions. In *Manhunter* - San Francisco how can he get into the Private Club, and what should he do in the shop? Tormod is also having trouble with *King's Quest I*. He can't get into the well with a bucket of water, and he doesn't know what to do in Coloma. In *Gold Rush*, he can't find Jake.

Now here's an obscure oldie that I'd not heard of until Paul Brown wrote from Cardiff, lamenting the fact that he's stuck on the planet Tarkoo with two young women. The two women concerned are not so much stuck up there on the planet with Paul, as stuck in the game too! The adventure is *Quest For Eternity*, released by Argus Press Software in 1984. When Paul presses the switch, he's told Something happened. But he doesn't know what! Can anyone out there help?

Is there a Module A in

Manhunter New York? Colm Divilly of Athlone has found Modules B and C, and reasons that there must be a Module A, although he can't find it. And what is he supposed to do with the candles in Trinity Church on the third day?

Adventures that vary from one version to the other are quite a headache for an Adventure Helpline! It seems that Mortville Manor is one of these, for Sharon Nixon cannot use a clue printed in the October issue: Put the ring in the hole on top of the Madonna's orb, and turn it. "The problem is that on my Amiga game there is no hole in the orb anywhere," complains Sharon. So how do Amiga owners get round this one? And how can Sharon get into Julia's room, and where is Leo's room?

Knightmare is baffling Chris Wells, who cannot get past the second room. Who can help him?

Sandra van Tongeren of Haren in The Netherlands, has a game she's considering torturing with a magnet, or even possibly taking to the vet to be put down! It's *Maniac Mansion* from Lucasfilm, in which Sandra has found her way to the swimming pool, but cannot get the key out of the chandelier. And she can't get anyone to go into the pool to pick up the radio - "It's too wet!" they all say. Who can save this game from the fate Sandra has in store for it? "Oh, here's something rather funny to try in *Police Quest 1*," adds Sandra. "Drop clothes." Hmmm, well whatever turns you on, Sandra!

"How do you get past the



worm in the tunnel under the shack?" asks Wayne Dibben of Upminster. Wayne is playing *Legend of The Sword*, and is also trying to get past the glowing sphere.

Recently, Finn Rosenloev wrote questioning the use of the pool in *Space Quest I*. "The pool is of no importance. Try moving towards the back of the cave and off to the left," advises Mark Kendall of St Albans. But Dominick Hardy doesn't quite agree. "Tell Finn to drink from it to find out what it is for. But he should remember to save the game first!"

How many adventurers

reading this column have tried a Home Grown adventure? By that I mean a non-commercially produced game sold by mail order from the author's home. If you're familiar with Tartan Software, perhaps you can help Paul Millard, who wants to know how to escape the hut, how to build a bridge, and the use of the idol in *Shipwreck*. And in *Prince of Tyn-dall* from the same source, Paul doesn't know what to do with the parchment, nor what to do with some gold coins he's come by.

Paul Hardy of Sheffield bought an Amiga to comple-

RE

ment his 64 a few months ago, but has now given up playing adventures on his old computer. "It's not even worth having it repaired, I'm enjoying adventures on the Amiga so much," explains Paul. But there's one in which his enjoyment has ground to a halt! "Is it possible to pass the bolts of forked lightning in Beyond Zork?" he asks. "Where is an instrument to draw a glyph with, and how may I take the helmet from beneath the dead stallion?"

Personal Nightmare is becoming something of a personal nightmare in Helpline terms! Latest sufferer is Nick Robinson of Kenilworth. He can't get into the garage - it's either locked or Mason won't let him in. He can't get into the manor because of its dead dog, and he's not got enough cash to get his film developed. Worse still, just when he thought he was making progress rescuing Judy from the loft, Alice zapped him on the way out. Look in the clues section, Nick - at least a few of your problems will be answered!

Massimo Bartaleno supplied the detailed tips in the clues section, but he, too, is stuck in Personal Nightmare. Like Nick, he doesn't have enough money to get the film developed. He doesn't know what to do with the certificates he found in the Registrar's safe, and can't get into Ivy Cottage without getting caught. A few more clues, please, all you PN players, and we shall soon be able to build up a complete picture of the sinister goings on in the village of Tyneham Cross!

Don't forget - the Adventure Helpline is here for your benefit! The more readers who write in, the more interesting, varied, and numerous these pages will be! The address is: Keith Campbell's Adventure Helpline, C+VG, Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU. And if you enclose an SAE, you can be sure of a personal reply!

HOME GROWN

In an attempt to make a bit of space in his computer cabinet, Ian (Fangs) Brown is offering The Menagerie (48k Spectrum - reviewed last month) at a special price of £1.99 until the end of January. The address is: 1 Amanda Road, Glen Parva, Leicester LE2 9HW.

SPELLBREAKER

Adventurers wanting hints, tips, and solutions for adventures, as well as reviews and general interest features, would be well advised to take a look at Spellbreaker, a fanzine edited by Mike Brailsford and now in its seventh issue. Home Grown adventures are well supported, as are mainstream commercial titles.

In half-A4 format, Spellbreaker's 40 pages are smartly presented, and appear during the third week of every month. Each issue costs 1.25 including postage, and from 1 to 12 issues can be ordered in advance, from: Spellbreaker, 19 Napier Place, South Parks, Glenrothes, Fife KY6 1DX

ROLE CALL

Lior Meir asked: "Is Webba's map any use?" a few weeks ago, about the game Journey. "I suggest that Lior should listen more closely to the shopkeeper in Lavos. Or simply cast a glow at the map and then taking a closer look at it after crossing the stream," suggests Peter Jelstrup, of Hellerup in Denmark.

Is there a vampire in Pool Of Radiance, or what? Patrick Halm was asking its whereabouts a couple of months back, but Jim Laver writes to say he has finished the game without coming across it. Jim reckons it was killed off before the game even started! Go into the cross shaped building in the graveyard, and you'll find an upturned coffin with ashes around, and a piece of paper referring to entry 43 in the Adventurer's Journal. That entry describes the fate of the vampire, says Jim.

Jim also has some words of comfort for Lars Wegman. The items Lars needs in

Bard's Tale III are under the gold plug in the middle of the keep. To move it, three lenses are needed, found in each of the three towers. Jim is offering maps for both Bard's Tale I and III. If you want to take him up on his kind offer, send him an SAE to 366 High Street, London Colney, Herts AL2 1HN.

It seems we can't get away from Bard's Tales this month! Craig Sutherland has been playing Bard's Tale I on his ST for months, and says "...it's so frustrating!" He can't find the Review Board, even after searching every place on the map, nor can he get past the iron gate in front of Kylearan's Tower.

But deep inside Kylearan's

tower, Jon Hooper is wandering around trying his hardest to get out! He has reached a warning in the maze referring to a "sting at the tail south of serpent way" and wonders if he can progress from there, hampered as he is by the dark?

And moving on a couple of games, Kaka, of Cabramatta, in New South Wales desperately needs help in Bard's Tale III. He is stuck in the Kinestia workshop, and wants to know how many times he should turn the right key and the left key.

Finally, where is the silver triangle Dave de Beukelaer of Antwerp is looking? You've guessed it - Bard's Tale I is the game!



CLUES A

ADVENTURE CLUES A-Z

Here's the latest bunch of clues to help with readers' previous unanswered problems, with help from: Jim Laver, London Colney; Remho de Gilde, Netherlands; Massimo Bartalena, Savigliano, Italy; Sue Medley, SynTax; Dominick Hardy, Gwynedd; and adventurers too numerous to mention who explained how to defeat the spider in King's Quest II!!!

INDIANA JONES AND THE LAST CRUSADE: Look in the pocket of the uniform in a chest upstairs in the castle, to release another uniform.

KING'S QUEST I: Ignore the mushroom and the elf's house until you have a bird! A condor will carry you over the river. Jump as it flies past. The mushroom will make you smaller.

KING'S QUEST III: To kill the spider, cast a spell to transform yourself into an eagle, and then fly towards the spider.

SMASHED: Fly the latrine to safety, and drop it!

SPACE QUEST I: Have a few drinks in the bar for guidance at the Ulence Flats! Give the golden egg to the troll on the bridge.

WORM IN PARADISE: To sit in the seat of power, stop the foam by blocking the orifice with the cork. The cork can be found in the bottle which may be purchased from the temple bar in the pleasure dome.

PERSONAL NIGHTMARE

With some useful tips from Massimo Bartalena of Savigliano, we start into what is proving to be a most complex and difficult adventure...

TO FREE JUDY: Go into the crypt under the churchyard. Don't forget to check the weeds near the big cross. Go east until you reach the coffin. Quickly open the door behind the coffin, and enter before the vampire gets you. You are now in Honeysuckle Cottage. Go up to the landing, and **UNWEAR** your **SHOES**. Enter the bedroom, examine Alice, get the key, and look under the bed. Then go back to the landing, drop the stepladder and climb it, open the loft door, and go up. Get a jug, fill it with water, empty jug on suit, and free Judy.

TO ARREST TONY DONALDSON: On the first night go into the pub kitchen between midnight and 7 am. Put the plug in the hole. Look

in the washing machine. Look in the trousers. Get the key, and go to your bedroom and sleep. In the morning, go to Tony's room first, look under the pillow, get the diary and unlock it. Find the policeman who is probably near the post office, and give him the diary.

TO OPEN THE SAFE IN THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE: Read the date on the painting.

MANIAC MANSION

Here's the lowdown on some tricky problems in Maniac Mansion, thanks to Stefaan Loncke of Overmere in Belgium.

BATHROOM: Open the curtain. Use the water faucet handle on the water faucet, and turn it on. Now go to the library. Let Bernard fix the phone with the tools. Pick up the phone and use it - dial the number you found in the bathroom.

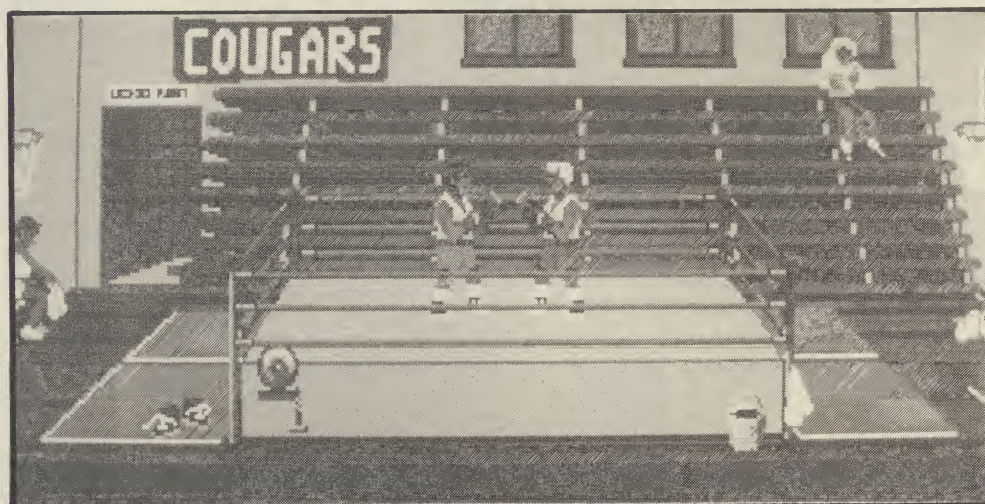
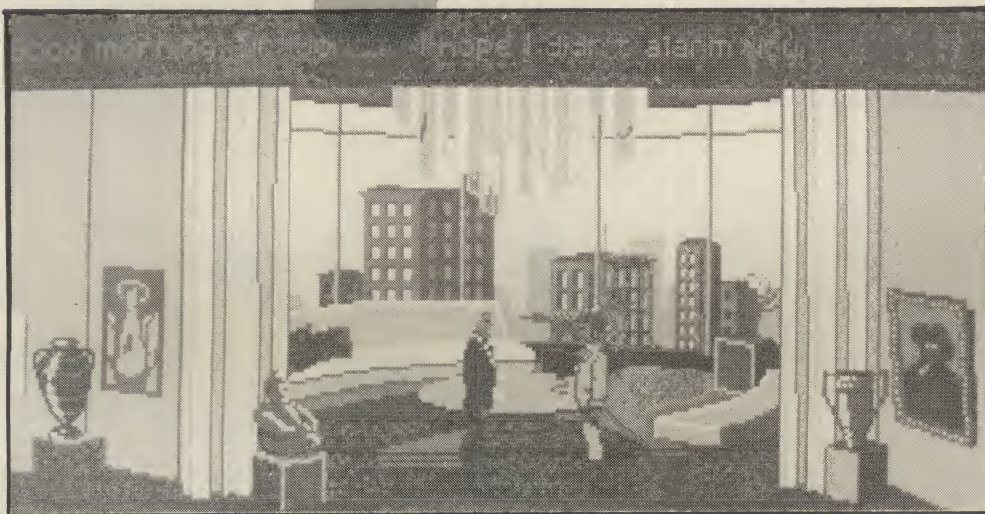
GARAGE DOOR: Use the Hunk-o-Matic machine to gain enough strength to open the garage door.

GLASS JAR: Fill it with water and put it in the microwave oven.

LIVING ROOM: Let Bernard open the old fashioned radio. Pick up the radio tube. Go to the mad scientist's room and put the tube in the socket. Read the wanted poster. Turn on the radio and use it. Dial the number found on the poster for a call to the Space Police.

TAPE: Give it to the green tentacle when he's in his room.

YELLOW KEY: It is found in the room of green tentacles. It will open the trunk. For a surprise, try using it to start the car.



Z



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PLUG ME INTO A SEGA"**

MEAN MACHINES

DYNAMITE DUX

Bin, the unlikely hero of Dynamite Dux, is cheesed off for two reasons. One: his girlfriend, Lucy, has been kidnapped by the wicked goblin Achacha. Two: he has been turned into a fluffy blue duck who bears a remarkable resemblance to Woody Woodpecker.

The only way to rectify the situation is to stonk over to Achacha's abode, rescue Lucy and then gently persuade the evil one to change Bin back into human form by kicking his head in.

This involves negotiating five horizontally scrolling worlds: Down Town, Japan, Chicago, Texas and Achacha World. Each of these is packed with Achacha's weird and wonderful army, which in-

cludes bouncing dog heads, ninja moles and living flames which spit out smaller fires at Bin.

Bin has certainly got his work cut out, but is a pretty good fighter - one press of the fire button lets rip with a punch that kills a baddie stone dead. If the fire button is held down longer, Bin winds up a mega-punch, his fist becoming huge as he whacks large numbers of bad dies into oblivion. There are also weapons lying around which can be picked up and used against the enemy, including stones, bombs, machine-guns, bazookas and "Sparrow Missiles".

At the end of each level is a big baddie which requires lots of hits with an extra wea-

pon before it dies, leaving the route open for Bin to progress to the next level. On the final is Achacha himself - blow him away and true love can prevail, and Bin can at last return to human form...

I loved Dynamite Dux in the arcades, and this Sega version is the spitting image, combining superb, colourful graphics and highly addictive gameplay to give one of the best Sega games around. The only thing missing is the simultaneous two-player option, but it doesn't really matter when the game is as much fun as this.

JULIAN RIGNALL



SEGA £24.95

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| GRAPHICS | 90% |
| SOUND | 78% |
| VALUE | 86% |
| PLAYABILITY | 91% |

Beautifully-drawn sprites, great backdrops and addictive gameplay all come together to make a brilliant Sega game which will appeal to beat 'em up and shoot 'em up fans alike.

OVERALL 90%



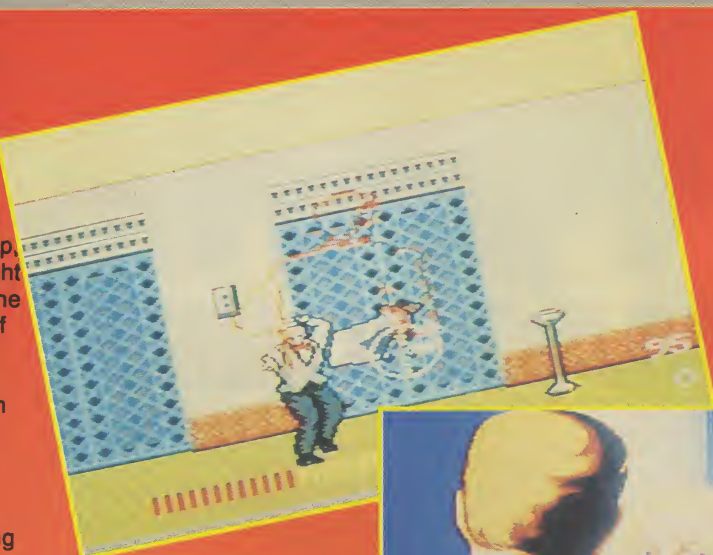
you, as that informer, begin an international vendetta against the Mafia with two goals in mind; rescuing the girl AND wiping out the bad guys in each town.

Dead Angle is an Operation Wolf style shoot 'em up, the player taking on the might of organised crime across the three Mafia-infested cities of Napoli, New York and the heart of the illegal alcohol racket, Chicago. Armed with a single-shot sidearm, each of the cities, making up a total of six areas, must be cleared of the allotted number of hoodlums. The playing area scrolls in eight directions, with the main character seen as a back-view line drawing. Once all of the criminals have been shot, the boss of each area appears on the scene, and must be shot several times before he hits the deck. Life-force is depicted by an energy bar, depleted every time the enemy scores a direct hit on the player. Throughout the fight, first aid kits appear, the shooting of which revitalises the energy bar. Sub-machine guns can also be picked up, their ammunition lasting only for a limited amount of time.

While Dead Angle is an enjoyable twist on the Operation Wolf theme, playability suffers because of slow, jerky scrolling. The enemy sprites, although nicely drawn, are

also affected animation-wise due to the ropery screen movement. Despite these annoyances, Dead Angle remains a fun blast, with a lot of hoods to send packing and bullets flying at a fair old pace. One of the bosses looks exactly like Blake Carrington from Dynasty, which is rather amusing, and there's a cracking end-game sequence which makes the whole thing worthwhile. I recommend you have a look at Dead Angle before shelling out any cash, as many people could be put off by the scrolling; if you can survive the dodgy presentation though, you'll find an addictive game simply itching to get out.

PAUL RAND



| SEGA | £24.95 |
|-------------|--------|
| GRAPHICS | 67% |
| SOUND | 69% |
| VALUE | 63% |
| PLAYABILITY | 70% |

What could have been an addictive, fast-action Mafia shoot-out blots its copy book with jerky scrolling which many will find unacceptable. To use a much-loved cliché, try before you buy.

OVERALL 68%

DEAD ANGLE

1930's America was a dangerous place to be if you wanted a drink. Prohibition was in force, but that didn't stop the Mafia running an illegal liquor trade. One man double-crossed the big Sicilian families by squealing to the cops, so they broke into his house, beat him up badly and kidnapped his fiancée as a precaution against him going to the boys in blue again. You can't keep a good citizen down, though, and



► SEGA

MEAN MACHINES

BASKETBALL NIGHTMARE

When the inhabitants of Nasty Mountain have an argument, they don't fight it out with their fists - shorts are pulled on, the teams are picked and the opponents do battle on the basketball court.

One or two players take part in this simplified basketball tournament across the five areas of Nasty Mountain. Besides the normal human players, purple werewolves are also keen basketball players, and it's against these that you battle. The aim is to score more baskets than the opposing team by running around with the ball and dropping it into the basket in the other team's half of the court. Two points are scored for

each successful shot, with scoring attempts being shown in a full-screen animated sequence.

Basketball Nightmare is an oversimplified form of the game, with the biggest challenge being that of keeping the incredibly speedy werewolves off the ball while your men practically hobble around the court at little more than a snail's pace. The sprites and backdrops are garishly coloured and flicker badly, but the animated sequence when someone scores is amazing - a huge picture of the scorer jumps up and lobs the ball into the net, and not always successfully, either!!



Despite that, Basketball Nightmare is a poor, ineffective game, combining gener-

ally lousy presentation with simplistic gameplay with the result that the game just doesn't hold your attention for long.

PAUL RAND



| | |
|-------------|--------|
| SEGA | £24.95 |
| GRAPHICS | 49% |
| SOUND | 54% |
| VALUE | 38% |
| PLAYABILITY | 40% |

Playing Basketball Nightmare is about as frightening as the werewolves that you're up against, with dull gameplay and flickery sprites ruling the day.

OVERALL 42%

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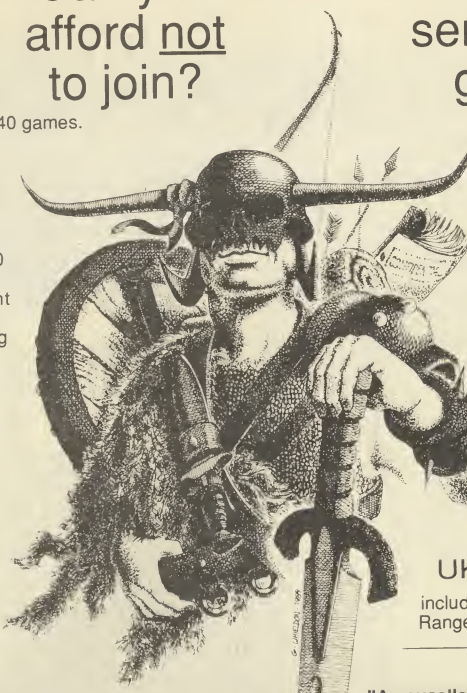
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The woodland creatures are many and varied, except for one trait - none of them want to be punched by Charlie. Contact with one of these animals means the loss of one of his three lives.

The fox has a couple of tricks up his sleeve, one of them being his best friend Jimmy the Crow, the other, his trusty Transformation Stick. When found, Jimmy rides on Charlie's back, jumping at the baddies when the fire button is pressed. The Transformation Stick, which

is also hidden, allows our furry friend to change into a different animal.

Everything about Psycho Fox is cute and just a bit soppy, but the gameplay is tough and challenging, with a brilliantly balanced difficulty level that lets you get just a little further into the game. If you're a platform game fanatic hankering after something akin to the Nintendo's Super Mario Brothers, don't miss this.

PAUL RAND

SEGA £24.95

GRAPHICS 90%

SOUND 79%

VALUE 82%

PLAYABILITY 86%

Psycho Fox features superb graphics and tons of tough, but highly addictive platform action which should keep you occupied for some considerable period of time.

OVERALL 85%



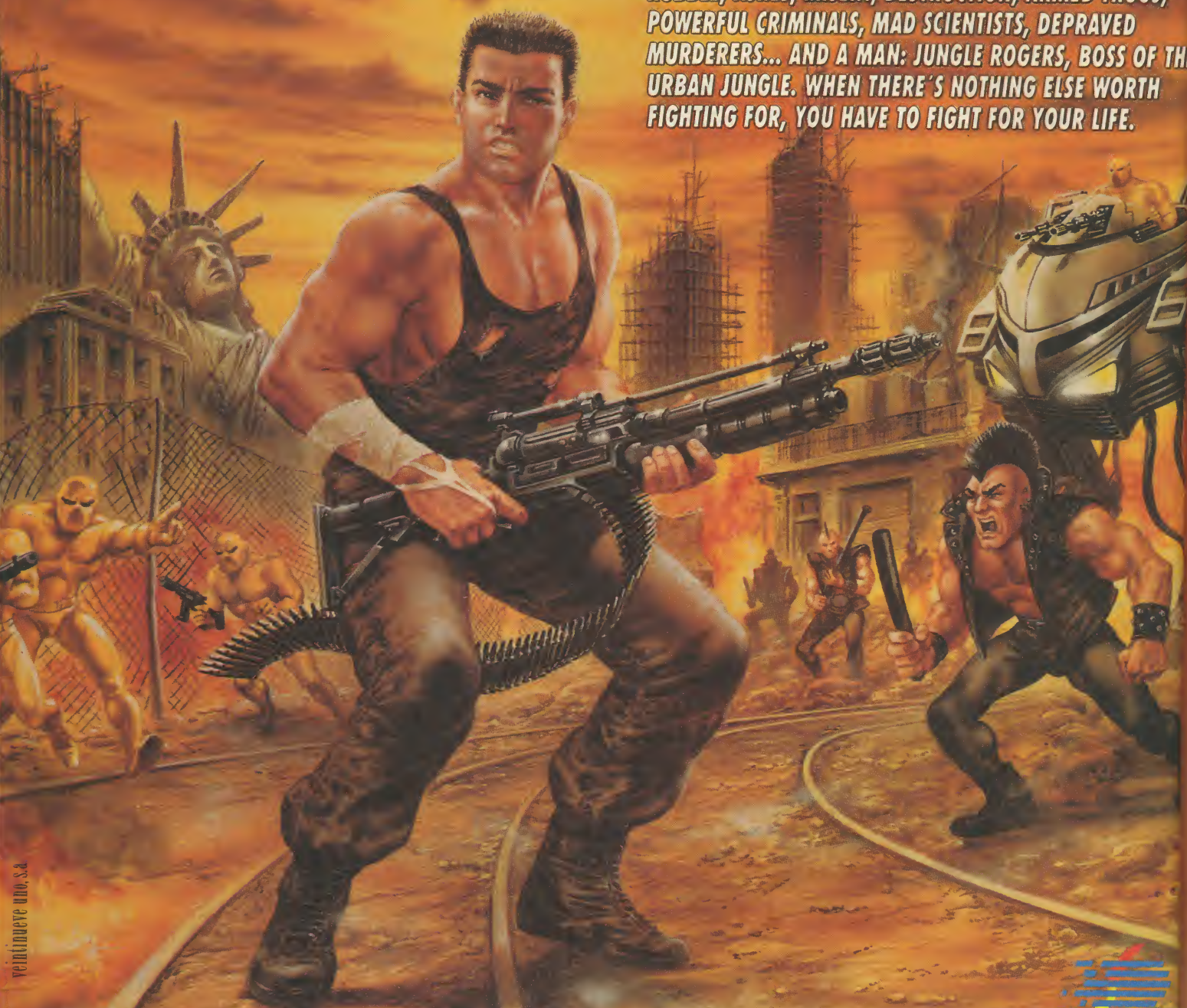
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quiver and nuke the heavy artillery in a 3D section. This bit's quite spectacular, and taking out a missile-firing Hind helicopter with a single arrow is very satisfying. Torching the tanks is a little trickier but not beyond the abilities of an ex-Green Beret like me.

I like my work, and my escapades in this game are possibly the most testing and enjoyable combat action I've seen since that last trip into 'Nam. It looks great, the weapons make nice, loud, violent noises, and there are some corking musical scores running in the background (that's not usually a feature of jungle warfare, but, shucks, I'm not complaining).

**PAUL "SLY"
GLANCEY**



Hey! Don't push me! I said don't - oh, now look what you've done - jogged me arm just when I was about to take out that platoon of "enemy" squaddies with a single arrow!

Johnny Rambo's me name, rescuing MIAs is me game. Well, more specifically, I'm looking for my old commander, Colonel Trautman who's been locked up by the godless oppressor somewhere behind "enemy" lines. To liven things up a bit, there are six "enemy" em-

placements to take out on the way to Old Trouty Boy's (that's what me and the lads at Fort Homicide used to call him) prison cell.

So, off I go, armed with my trusty M-16, my trusty bow and explosive arrows, my trusty sack of time bombs, and my trusty blade between my trusty teeth. The blade is pretty useless, so it's best to hold down the trigger and spray hot lead left, right and centre. The arrows are only effective on inert targets,

because for full effect the bowstring has to be pulled right back (which takes time). The time bombs are best kept for blowing up bunkers and machine gun towers.

After the first level, subsequent scenes are mazes. They're simple enough, but the exit doesn't open until a quota of prisoners have been rescued from their cells, or enough helicopters and crates have been blown up.

In between levels, it's time to rummage through the old

SEGA £31.90

GRAPHICS 83%
SOUND 86%
VALUE 86%
PLAYABILITY 83%

Rip-roaring combat game with loads of blasting to get your teeth into. Not exactly in keeping with the Christmas spirit, though.

OVERALL 85%

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**OPERATION
WOLF**

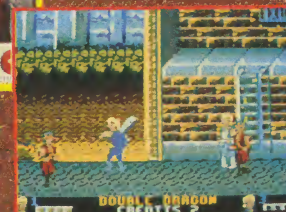
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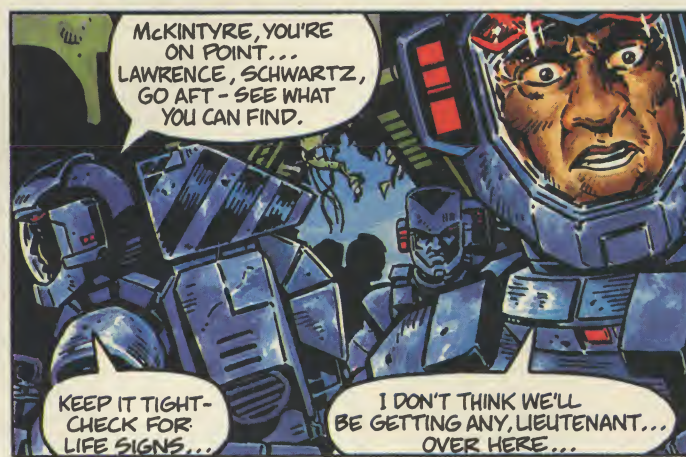
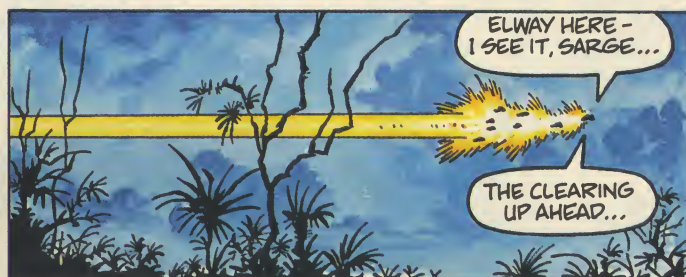
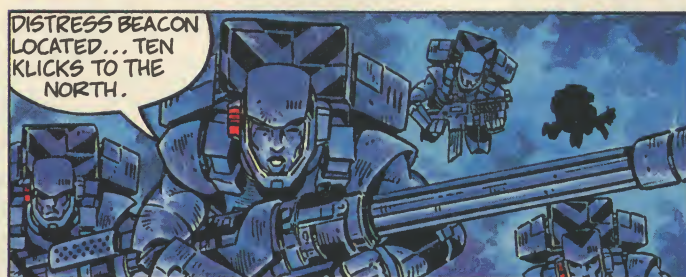
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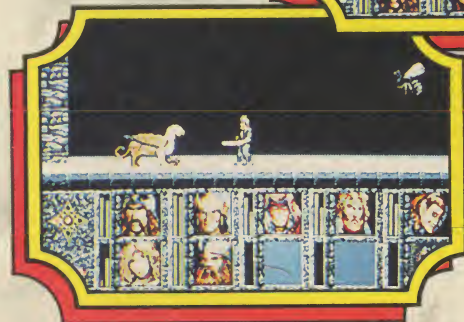
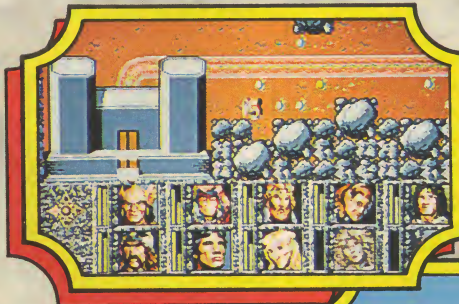
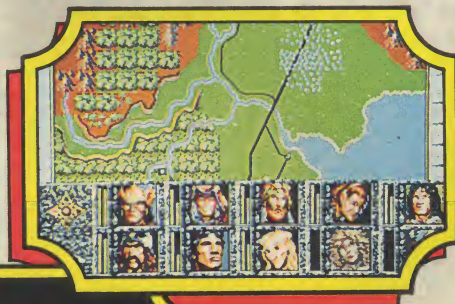
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Takhisis, Queen of Darkness, and her Draconian hordes have overrun much of the homeland of Krynn, even the elven armies of Qualinost, valiant in their resistance to this evil power, struggle on the edge of defeat. It is only the returning Companions of the Lance that can halt this wave of tyranny before Krynn is consumed by evil. Freed from captivity by an elven assault column, the Companions under the guiding direction of the Cleric Goldmoon and bolstered by their success at recovering the mystical Disks of Mishakal, can once again restore a belief in the gods and unify the inhabitants of Krynn against the power of Takhisis.

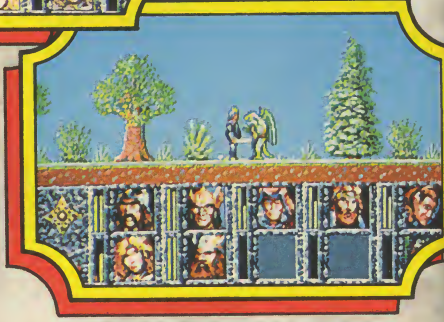
The Companions must move swiftly through this war-torn land, cautious of strangers but seeking compatriots and ever alert to the rapid advance of the Draconian forces. The courageous elves will finally fall, but there is one last chance to free the loyal slaves held in Pax Tharkas and join together to recover the long-lost sword Wrymslayer in what could be the vital rallying point in rekindling resistance to the plague of darkness sweeping over Krynn.

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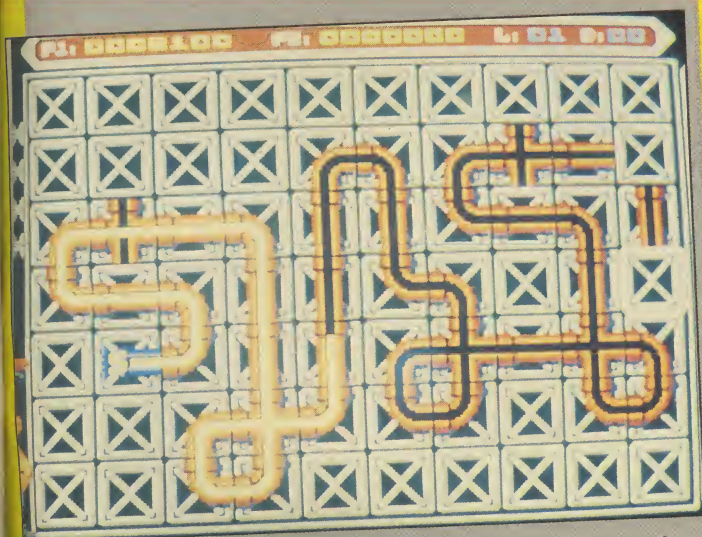
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Screen shots from various systems.

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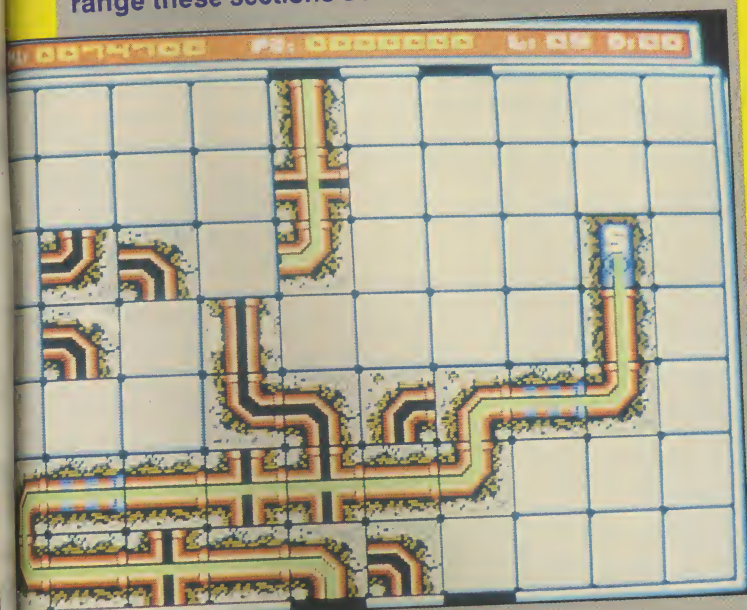


PIPEMANIA EMPIRE/ LUCASFILM

While US Gold were concentrating on Lucasfilm's adventure and simulation software, Empire managed to snap up this 16 bit puzzle game which is wowing them in the 'States. Basically, you play a plumber who has to build a pipeline. Simple, eh? Well not quite. You have to build the pipeline out of random oddments of piping sections which are fed to you on a conveyor belt. You have to arrange these sections so

as to contain a flow of water which is slowly seeping through the pipeline and of course, if you spill any it's **GAME OVER**. We've played an American version of the game and our conclusion was that this could be the next Tetris. However, Empire plan to make a couple of superficial alterations, so you'll have to wait till next month for the full review. Take our word for it, though, it's gonna be **BIG!**

**RELEASE: EVERY
FORMAT IMAGIN-
ABLE, END OF
JANUARY
PRICE: TBA**



WILD STREETS TITUS

And who says we never look at Amstrad software? Here's a glimpse of the CPC version of Wild Streets, a beat 'em up from across the Channel which isn't looking too bad at all, really. Walk through the more unsavoury area of the

city, dealing a hefty blow to all and sundry. The locals probably won't take an immediate shine to your actions, but don't worry; they'll soon disperse once they cast their eyes on the black panther which you've brought along for a spot of fresh air.

**RELEASE: ST AMIGA
PC C64 AMSTRAD
SPECTRUM, DECEMBER
PRICE: TBA**



VAUX HURIKAN

Before any of you lager louts start dribbling into your pint glasses, this game has nothing whatsoever to do with the brewery of the same name. In Vaux, you are a futuristic black market trader who, to make ends meet, must do a few dodgy deals throughout the galaxy, with the ultimate aim of making enough wonga to buy up the entire trad-

ing empire! Programmed by the creator of 16 bit Cybernoid, Tony Cooper, and featuring multidirectional scrolling, a 3D docking procedure and, of course, lots of things to shoot, pick up and sell, Vaux looks to be a cut above your usual shoot and collect 'em up.

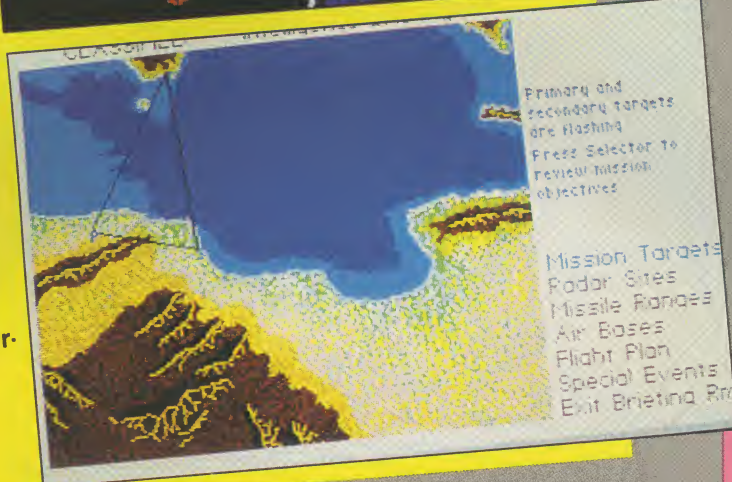
**RELEASE: ST AMIGA,
JANUARY
PRICE: ST AMIGA,
£24.95**



F-19 STEALTH FIGHTER MICROPROSE

We've seen it on the C64. We've seen it on the PC. We even saw the first pictures of the real thing on telly the other night. And now, Microprose's award-winning simulation of the USAF's top secret fighter jet is almost ready to fly into the homes of all you ST-owning combat pilots out there! Take to the skies and flush out the Russians in the infamous "invisible" plane, utilising all the features which were available in the PC version. It might not do much for East-West relations, but F-19 Stealth Fighter should have you braving the terrors of the Red Army with the best of them!

RELEASE: ST, SPRING
PRICE: ST, TBA



NEBULUS II HEWSON

Pogo, the small, green frog-like star of Hewson's hit Nebulus returns to the land of Nor and its many towers, inhabited by some of the nastiest nasties imagin-

able. Sixteen of the tall, cylindrical buildings are waiting for Pogo to liberate, this time with the help of a helicopter and an armoury of extra weapons. Slides, ladders, ropes and similar such obstacles stand between Pogo and completion of

his goal, and with graphics as good as the ones shown in this screenshot, who could blame you for wanting to have a crack at it?

RELEASE: ST AMIGA, MAY
PRICE: ST AMIGA, TBA



VENDETTA SYSTEM 3

If you think that the graphics in Vendetta owe a little to the style of the Last Ninja games then it'd come as no surprise to hear that it's the latest release to come from the System 3 stable. The hero's girlfriend has been kidnapped, as bait to lure the Professor to their lair. Trained in paramilitary skills, you decide to bypass the services of the police and take on the heavy mob single-handedly. Not only do you get to beat up bad-dies in beautifully-drawn 3D locations like the one in the screenshot, but there's also a Ferrari F40 to pose around in. And who says that vigilantism doesn't pay!

RELEASE: C64, JANUARY
PRICE: C64, TBA

STARFLIGHT ELECTRONIC ARTS

Think of a computer RPG set in space. Consider the dimensions - 270 star systems, 800 planets, 1.9 million locations per planet. Contemplate having to command a six-man crew made up of some of the most alien aliens this side of Ursa Minor. And then cry when an enemy ship turns you into ozone 'cos you were too busy thinking. This has been out for a while on the PC, but PC owners will soon be able to play Starflight III!

RELEASE: AMIGA C64, DECEMBER ST, JANUARY
PRICE: ST AMIGA £24.99, C64 £14.99

RENAISSANCE IMPRESSIONS

Who needs conversions of the latest multi-player, hydraulic-everything coin-op when you can take Space Invaders, Asteroids, Centipede and Galaxians, add a few new features and bung them all in one box in time for the post-Xmas sales rush? That's what Impressions have done with their latest release, Renaissance. Up to four players can take part simultaneously while Dave Whittaker music blasts out in the background, warping your brain enough to make you forget that you've just forked out nearly twenty quid on this...

RELEASE: ST AMIGA, JANUARY
PRICE: ST AMIGA, £19.99



PREVIEW

JACK NICKLAUS GOLF ACCOLADE

Drag your caddie along to some of the world's top 18-hole courses as you take on the persona of that golfing great Jack Nicklaus in Accolade's sport sim, officially endorsed by the man in question. Viewed

in second-person perspective 3D as seen in this warper impressive ST screenshot, pit your golfing skills against trees, bunkers, long grass and choppy winds. Oh yeah, and try to sink the ball in those little holes while you're at it.

RELEASE: ST C64 AMSTRAD, DECEMBER
PRICE: ST £24.99, C64 AMSTRAD £9.99



POWER BOAT ACCOLADE

After dabbling with aircraft and cars, Accolade have now moved onto the water with their latest simulation, Power Boat. Negotiate a variety of wetlands, including Miami Beach and San Francisco Bay, in one of a selection of well-mean speedboats, dodging the

hazards (and the other sailors!) while keeping a watchful eye on your instruments and gazing lovingly at the impressive 3D graphics. Test Drive II with an outboard motor? At least you'll not have the fuzz on your back!

RELEASE: PC AMIGA ST C64, LATE JANUARY
PRICE: AMIGA PC £24.99, C64 £9.99

CYBERBALL DOMARK/TENGEN

These Tengen arcade conversions are being knocked out at a fair old rate! The next one to appear will be the computer adaption of the American Football coin-op with a twist - the game is played by 20 feet tall robots instead of humans! 2022 is the year, and violence on-pitch has overtaken that in the stands. Watch as both teams mash each other into piles of scrap metal as they battle to win control of the 350 pound, explosive football. If you're a lover of the sport, and if Ten-



gen's previous conversions are anything to go by, await Cyberball with breath-a-bated.
RELEASE: ST AMIGA PC C64 AMSTRAD

AQUANAUT PRISM LEISURE

This just missed out on a review this issue because of lack of space, so we thought we'd better tell you that it's an underwater arcade adventure in three parts which pits you (the aquanaut of the title) against nasty aliens who have moved into the lost city

of Atlantis. First you have to find swim through mutant sea beasts to find Atlantis, then you have to use high explosive to "evict" the aliens. It's an engrossing sort of game from the programmers of The Kristal which is worth looking out for.

RELEASE: ST AMIGA,

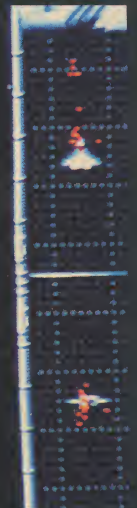
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SPECTRUM, JANUARY
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EAGLE'S RIDER INFOGRAMES

It's the 71st Century and nobody's happy. It's hardly surprising though, the human race is having to fight it out

in space with the usual bunch of psychopathic cyborgs who want to take over the universe. You, as Captain Steve Jordan, have to zip through space at light speed in a stolen spacecraft, the Eagle, towards the Cyborg home planet

and destroy it. It's not the most original of plots for a 3D shoot 'em up, but it looks quite good doesn't it? Review's comin' reeeal soon.

RELEASE: ST AMIGA PC, JANUARY

PRICE: ST AMIGA PC, £24.99

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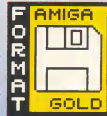


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